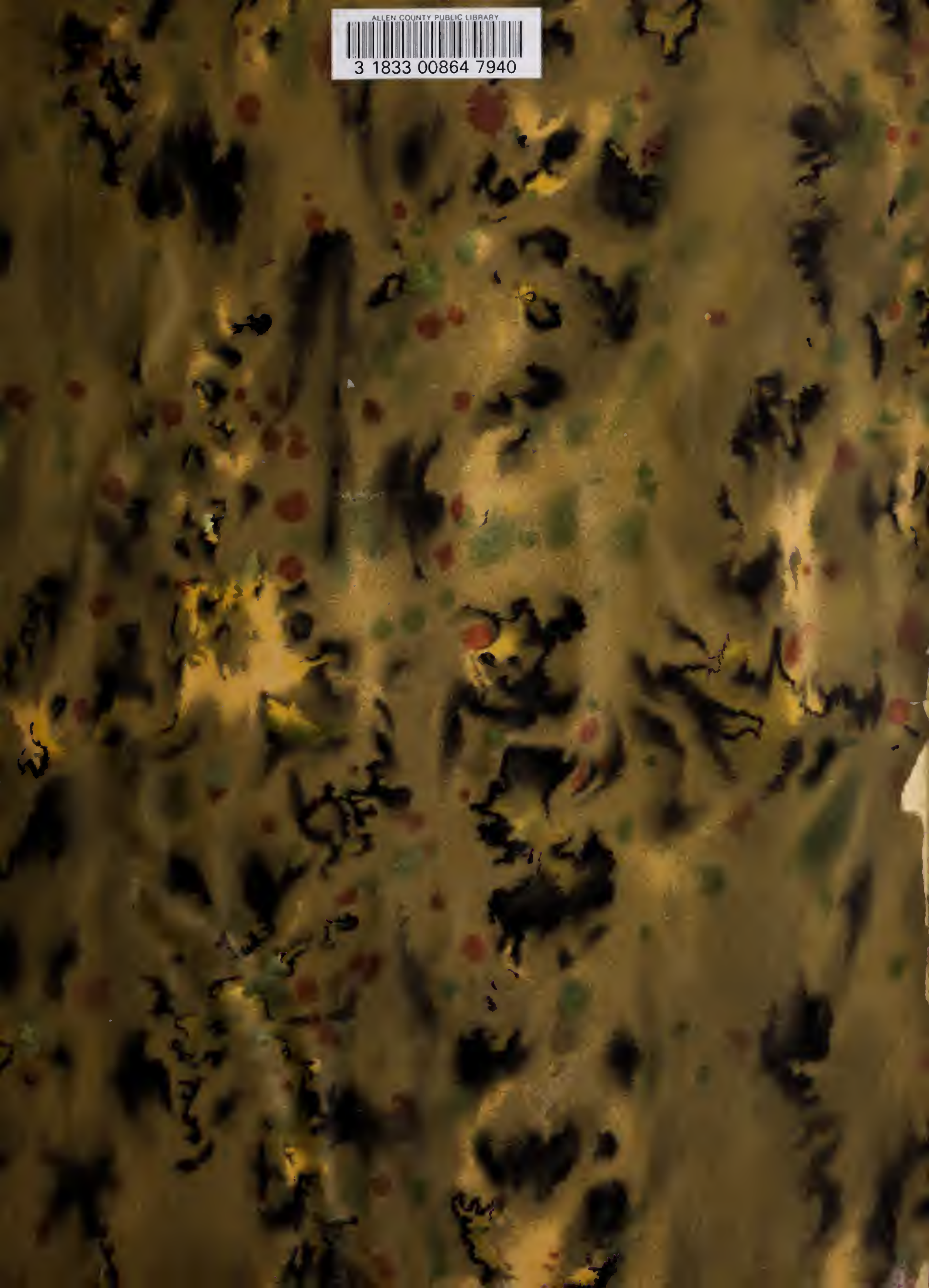




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# THE MAKERS<sup>c</sup> OF ILLINOIS



## A MEMORIAL HISTORY OF THE STATE'S HONORED DEAD

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*By* J. SEYMOUR CURREY

President Evanston Historical Society; Honorary Vice-President Illinois State  
Historical Society; Corresponding Member of the Chicago Historical  
Society; Author of "Chicago: Its History and Its Builders;"  
and of "The Story of Old Fort Dearborn."

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VOLUME II

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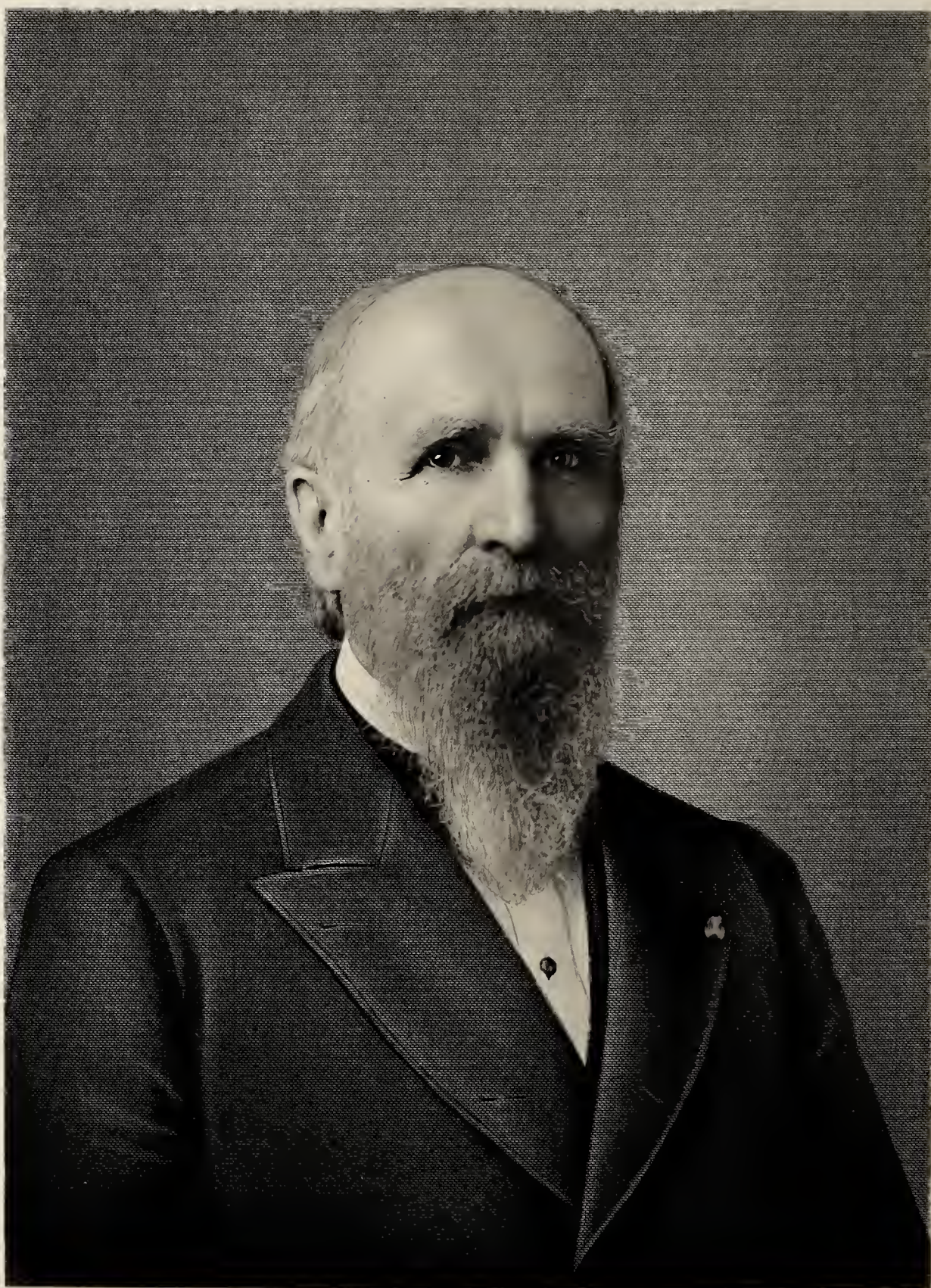
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*Allen G. Fuller*

## General Allen C. Fuller



TO LIVE in the remembrance of a grateful people is not to die. The memory of what General Allen C. Fuller accomplished for Illinois is cherished in the hearts of all who have deep interest in the annals of the state and especially in the excellent record which she made during the darkest hour in the history of the nation. In that emergency period which tried men's souls it was found that he was actuated by a spirit of patriotism that transcended all other interests. He might see visions and dream dreams of what the future had in store for the country but he made these visions and dreams realities through his practical efforts, submerging all other interests into one purpose of holding aloft the banner of the Union. When the crisis had passed General Fuller returned to private life, resuming law practice in which he had long been engaged and at the same time becoming an active factor in financial circles. In these connections, too, his labors were important and far-reaching and again not only Belvidere but also the entire state felt the stimulus of his interest and ambition.

General Fuller was born at Farmingham, Connecticut, September 24, 1822, and died on December 6, 1901. He was descended in both the paternal and maternal lines from New England ancestry. His parents were Lucius and Candace (Newell) Fuller who, coming to Illinois in pioneer times, cast in their lot with the early settlers of Boone county. Their last days were passed in the city of Belvidere, where they enjoyed the highest respect and good-will of all with whom they came in contact.

The educational advantages accorded General Allen C. Fuller were those offered by public and private schools in Towanda, Pennsylvania. Following his graduation from the Towanda Academy he continued his studies under the direction of a most capable private teacher with whom he completed the full course of collegiate work. In the meantime he had determined upon the practice of law as a profession which he desired to follow, and in 1841 began reading,

leading eventually to his admission to the bar at Warsaw, New York, in 1846. In November of the same year he reached Belvidere, where he remained for more than a half century, regarded in his last days as the revered and honored patriarch of his locality. He had been a resident here for a very brief period when several important law cases were entrusted to his care. There was a population of only about eight hundred and the two attorneys in active practice were General S. A. Hurlbut and W. T. Burgess. Soon after Mr. Fuller's arrival the firms of Fuller & Burgess and of Loop & Hurlbut were formed. They largely controlled the law business of their district, practicing not only in their county but also in various neighboring counties and before the supreme court. General Fuller concentrated his energies upon his profession with the result that he was not long in acquiring a good clientage that, as the years went by, connected him with litigation of a more and more important character. He ever analyzed his cases most carefully and seemed to realize almost intuitively the relative value of any evidence introduced, giving always to the salient point its due prominence. In the earlier years of his practice he refused to enter into any connection with political affairs but later in life held the office of master in chancery, appraiser of damages on the Illinois and Michigan canal, state bank commissioner, county judge, circuit judge, adjutant general of the state, representative and speaker of the house, senator and president pro tem of the senate. He thus left the impress of his individuality upon the history of Illinois, aiding in shaping its legislation and in formulating its records during its most momentous epoch. When he retired from public life and returned to Belvidere the publishers of one of the local papers wrote: "For more than eighteen years the name of Allen C. Fuller has been intimately and most favorably known to the people of this portion of the state. In 1846 he came to this place a young, briefless and penniless lawyer. His scholarly attainments, his legal acquirements and his industry and inflexible resolution to succeed soon brought to him an extensive and lucrative practice, and during the succeeding twelve or fifteen years while he was in active practice we presume that no man ever doubted that he ably, zealously and faithfully discharged his duties to his clients. Though always public-spirited and liberal, he has, by personal economy and business talent, acquired a handsome property and has contributed much to the growth and prosperity of our town. When the war broke out in 1861 General Fuller was then presiding judge of this circuit and we believe it was universally admitted that he discharged its honorable and respon-

sible duties satisfactorily and with ability. In the summer of that year he was urged by our state officers to connect himself with the military affairs of our state. The bar of the circuit unanimously objected to his resignation but urged him temporarily to accept the appointment tendered to him of adjutant general. In the fall of 1861 he entered upon the discharge of the duties of that laborious and exacting and responsible office and in July, 1862, resigned the office of circuit judge. The history and result of his labors during the past three years and a half as adjutant general of the state are too well known to the country to need to be mentioned here. In the opinion of the press, without distinction of party, we believe, if the testimony of Governor Yates, with whom he has been so long associated, if the public opinion, so far as we have heard it expressed, are to be relied upon, then, indeed, he has rendered the state and country capable, faithful and acceptable service. The published reports of the operations of the adjutant general's department in the organizing and sending to the field over two hundred thousand men are before us and we would wish no better record than to have been so honorably identified with the glorious history of Illinois during this war. Governor Yates in his last message repeats what he has stated in other messages and says: 'General Fuller has been a most able, faithful and energetic officer, and is entitled to the gratitude of the state.' The house of representatives at its last session unanimously adopted a report of its committee appointed to inspect the adjutant general's office and from which report we extract the following: 'That we have thoroughly examined the office of the adjutant general and find it a model of completeness, one that preserves in all its glory the proud record of all our soldiery and reflects infinite credit upon the great state whose sons they are. \* \* \* That in the judgment of this committee the thanks of every patriotic citizen of the state are due to General Fuller for the able and efficient manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office and for his indefatigable efforts in collecting and preserving this glorious record of a glorious state.' On the first day of January last General Fuller resigned his office as adjutant general and, having been previously elected a member of the general assembly, he was nominated by acclamation by our party, and on the 2d of January was elected speaker of the house of representatives. The manner in which he acquitted himself in this new position may be seen by the following resolution which was unanimously adopted by that body just before the adjournment on the 16th ult.:

“ ‘RESOLVED, That we tender our heartfelt thanks to the Hon. Allen C. Fuller, our presiding officer, for the kind, courteous, able and impartial manner in which he has presided over us, and as such recognized in his general bearing and demeanor the perfect model of a gentleman.’

“As a speaker of the house of representatives and while presiding officer of the senate General Fuller was, of course, prevented from actively participating in the debates, but we notice from the official proceedings that on the subject of private legislation and the industrial university bill he joins the discussions and we think our readers will agree with us that in the following extracts from his speeches, which we publish today, his views were sound and were ably presented. In conclusion we regret to say that General Fuller returns home with his health seriously impaired but it may be some consolation to him to know that for his long and faithful service he has acquired a high character as a public officer and enjoys the universal confidence of his old neighbors and friends among whom he has resided so many years.”

Mr. Fuller's service as adjutant general of the state during the Civil war would alone entitle him to the grateful remembrance of the people of Illinois for years to come and yet his labors were by no means limited to that one public service. While a member of the state legislature in both house and senate he took an active and helpful part in framing the laws enacted during the period and through his efforts and influence various important measures found their way to the statute books of the state. To him may be attributed the law establishing railroad commissions and a board of public charities, both of which laws are now in force. He was also the author of a bill upon the subject of eminent domain. He introduced and supported the revenue law substantially now in force, and the impress of his genius and ability is found on many a page of the Revised Statutes of the State. All of Illinois' many histories pay tribute to the work and worth of General Fuller and it was with regret that his fellow citizens saw him retire from public life in 1872. He was one of the early founders and promoters of the republican party in Illinois and in the never-to-be-forgotten political campaign of 1860 he and Governor Yates canvassed almost the entire state in behalf of the republican party. Theirs was a successful and brilliant campaign, largely promoting the support given to the political organization which they advocated.

While General Fuller made practice of law his real life work he had other important outside interests. He figured prominently in

financial circles and assisted in the establishment of six or more national banks in which he held prominent offices. He also made judicious investments in real estate until his property holdings became extensive and netted him a most gratifying income. In his law practice his devotion to his clients' interests was proverbial, yet he never forgot that he owed a higher allegiance to the majesty of the law. He recognized the fact that there are certain things due to the court, to his own self-respect and above all to justice and a righteous administration of the law which neither the zeal of an advocate nor the pleasure of success would permit him to disregard. His spotless and exalted reputation will be long remembered by the profession and the community and his memory be held precious by his friends, while that which he accomplished will live long after his name is dimmed in the mists of years.

His greatest sorrow came to him in the death of his children and in honor of his deceased daughter Ida he gave five thousand dollars for the founding of a public library which has since become one of the finest in the state outside of the large cities. Many acts of public benevolence are rightly accredited to him and his charity and public-spirited interest in Belvidere are proverbial. He was a man of noble character, of high ideals and exalted purpose, and as a citizen and friend his example was such that it might well be followed by all. When the occasion demanded he could be austere and commanding, yet it was in his nature to be gentle and kindly, and it was known that he ever held friendship inviolable. Of him it was written by one who knew him well: "A learned historian of this state has said that 'the history of Illinois could not be written with the name of Allen C. Fuller left out.' Truer words were never spoken nor a more deserved tribute ever paid to a public servant. In the county of Boone, where he is best known, and where the greater portion of his life has been spent, the name of General Fuller is a household word and is a synonym for honor, integrity and fair dealing as well as for worth and ability. Whether at home or abroad, in private or public life, no man ever questioned his honor and integrity; no man ever doubted his public spirit, his broadmindedness or his absolute justice in all his dealings with his fellowmen. As a young man, in the practice of law he was industrious and faithful, and those qualities, coupled with strict honesty and fair ability, could not fail to bring success. He has held the offices of master in chancery, county judge, circuit judge, representative in the general assembly and speaker of the house, state senator from his district and president of the senate and adjutant general of the state of Illinois during the days that 'tried

men's souls,' when more than two hundred thousand men went out from Illinois to do battle for the Union. In all these positions of trust and honor he acquitted himself with signal ability and with manly honor. No man will deny and none can gainsay that he has been a just and upright judge, a faithful public servant and an honest man in all the relations of life. And such is and will be the final judgment as to his abilities, worth and character."

General Fuller came to Belvidere when it was a little village, when its people were poor and its future outlook anything but bright. He lived to see it become a flourishing manufacturing center and through all the years he met every demand of citizenship, of comradeship and of manhood. He ever had the courage of his convictions and he usually occupied a position of leadership. Such was the recognition of his judgment that others followed in his footsteps and he became an influential force in the community. There was naught of little pettiness about him; his nature was never cramped or dwarfed by selfishness nor egotism; on the contrary, his vision was broad and his judgment of life was accurate. That he performed a great mission in the world and fulfilled the purpose for which he was intended none doubt. Such a spirit can never be lost to the world and must have stepped into a greater, more beautiful life when the door closed behind him and shut him from mortal vision, but such a friend, so pure, so loyal, so great-hearted, can never be replaced to those who came within the close circle of intimate acquaintanceship.







Otto Löring

## Otto Young



CENTRAL figure passed from the stage of earthly activity in the death of Otto Young. He had played well the role of life assigned him and his advancement had been continuous from the time that he started upon a mercantile career in the new world at a salary of three dollars per week, until he stood as one of the foremost business men of Chicago. Success to him meant not only the attainment of wealth but the opportunity for helpfulness toward his fellowmen. As he prospered he gave generously to various philanthropies yet he spoke as little of his benevolences as he did of his business affairs to those who were not directly interested and connected with him in such undertakings.

Mr. Young was born in Elberfeld, Germany, December 20, 1844, a son of Johann C. and Marie (Von Wingender) Young. The father, who was an architect, died when his son Otto was but nine years of age. The fact that he had relatives living in New York and that favorable reports reached him concerning the opportunities offered in America, influenced him to come to the United States. When he arrived here his relatives decided that he needed a little more education than the country schools of his native land had offered him, so that for a year and a half he studied hard at the military academy at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson. He then accepted a clerkship in a cigar store in the Gilsey House in New York at a salary of three dollars per week. Such a condition made frugality and economy a necessity and developed in him habits which constituted the foundation of his business success in later years. He returned to Germany in 1861 but the following year again came to the United States. On his return he engaged in business on his own account as a dealer in fancy goods and jewelry. Success attended him in this venture as it did in almost every undertaking of his life. His judgment was seldom if ever at fault regarding the worth of a business transaction and the value of an opportunity. In 1867 he went upon the road as a traveling salesman for Hecht Brothers, owners of a New York house in the same line of business. All through his life he eagerly availed himself of every opportunity that offered for advancement and for investment.

His work brought him into the west and it so happened that business interests had called him to Chicago just before the great fire of 1871. After the conflagration, recognizing the spirit of the city, he realized the fact that there would be splendid chances here for the merchant and business man and in 1872 he purchased an interest in the wholesale jewelry house of W. B. Clapp & Company at Nos. 149 and 151 State street. From that time forward until his death he was continuously connected with the wholesale trade of the city. In 1879 he purchased Mr. Clapp's interest in the business, which was reorganized under the name of Otto Young & Company. In 1886 he made his initial step in the dry-goods business when he became a stockholder and managing director of The Fair. It was in connection with that establishment that he won much of his fortune. The business had been organized by E. J. Lehmann as a small department store in 1875 on its present site on State, Adams and Dearborn streets. The trade increased year by year, necessitating the enlargement of its quarters from time to time until a new building was erected, covering a half block between State and Dearborn along Adams. The business was incorporated in 1886, Mr. Young taking over a half interest. From the beginning he assumed the management of the business and such was the increase in trade that in 1890 the capital stock was increased to one million dollars. His original investment later brought to him a return of millions. There are four thousand employes in the store and the house stands among the foremost mercantile establishments of the Mississippi valley. Mr. Young directed the interests of that great emporium for years but in 1905 sold out to the heirs of the Lehmann estate, saying that his fortune was as large as he cared to have it and he was willing that others should have the opportunity of winning success through the conduct and control of The Fair. However, he retained an interest in the real estate occupied by the business house. All through the years he had made investments in property and at the time of his death was the third largest owner of realty in the central district of Chicago. He had various holdings, prominent among which is the fee occupied by the Reliance Building at State and Washington streets. He had equally prominent leasehold interests, including the southeast corner of State and Madison streets, where the Carson, Pirie, Scott & Company's store now stands, and the Heyworth Building. Very few people knew the details of Mr. Young's business transactions. He was quick to see the possibilities of every proposition and he had unswerving faith in the commercial greatness of Chicago, but he did not discuss his plans nor his

business activities with those whose interest was merely that of curiosity. To those who had a right to know his words were always clear and decisive, expressing exactly the situation, and no one left him in doubt as to his position or the correctness thereof.

In 1868, in New Orleans, Mr. Young was united in marriage to Miss Ann Elizabeth Murphy, a native of Virginia. They were the parents of a son and four daughters, but the son, William, died several years prior to the death of the father. The daughters are Mrs. Walter L. Wiekens, Mrs. Joseph De Korwin and Mrs. Samuel K. Martin, of Chicago, and Mrs. L. G. Kaufman, of Marquette, Michigan. Mr. Young had a city home on Calumet avenue and erected at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, one of the finest country homes in all the United States. It is surrounded by beautiful grounds, attractive principally on account of its native beauty. Mr. Young was very fond of nature and the supervision of his large farm was a great pleasure to him and constituted one of the sources of recreation and interest in his later years.

Mr. Young always manifested a public-spirited devotion to Chicago and her welfare. Perhaps the event of his life that pleased him more than anything else was the raising of the five-million-dollar guarantee fund that won the World's Fair for the city against the rival bidding of New York. He was credited with securing the exposition for Chicago and it was ever a matter of personal satisfaction that he accomplished this. He was secretary-treasurer of the World's Fair Association and to the close of the exposition he took a deep personal interest in the enterprise. He was also a liberal patron of charity, being actively interested in several philanthropies. Those activities which became known to the world were the erection of a wing to the Chicago Home for Incurables, at Fifty-sixth street and Ellis avenue, a building for the Chicago Orphan Asylum and the donation of an immensely valuable south side property for a home for the aged. The wing for the Home for Incurables was erected in memory of his son William and was planned largely for tubercular patients. He bore the expense of that branch of the institution, costing him annually a large sum, and every Christmas he gave to each one of the patients a five-dollar gold piece. His private charities, too, were extensive and yet he never discussed these. He was entirely free from ostentation or display in such matters and he almost literally followed the injunction "not to let the left hand know what the right hand was doing." He belonged to the Union League, the Calumet and the South Shore Country Clubs. He was unassuming in manner,

cared little for society and was noted for his dislike of shams. He greatly valued life's experiences, its contacts and its opportunities, for his own career had taught him how to judge of each. He was in the sixty-second year of his age at the time of his death, on the 30th of November, 1906. The unexpected ending of his career shocked the business and financial world of Chicago. Tributes to his memory and business ability were paid him by many leading citizens. All who knew him entertained the highest respect for him because of his genuine worth. He was like a young sturdy tree of the forest that reaches ever upward to the light, expanding and growing as it towers and grows above its fellows. Strong personality, individuality and laudable ambition were his possessions. His start in the new world was that of a humble youth, but the recognition and utilization of each opportunity that came to him brought him to a commanding position where success and honors were multiplied unto him and he stood with those whom the world instinctively respects because of their attainments and the manner of their accomplishment. At death he left large sums to Chicago charitable organizations, the largest being four hundred thousand dollars to the Chicago Home for Incurables, an institution in which Mr. Young took great interest.







*John Hay*

## Hon. John Hay



ONE of the counselors and advisers of Abraham Lincoln during his presidential administration and forty years later secretary of state under President Roosevelt and all through the intervening period active and prominent in affairs of government, there are few men who have exerted as strong an influence in shaping the destiny of the nation without occupying the executive chair as did the Hon. John Hay. He was in the early twenties when Lincoln called him to Washington to serve as confidential messenger and he stood very close to the president in his knowledge of the momentous questions decided during the Civil war. He was never afterward allowed to retire altogether to private life, as his opinions were constantly sought by the nation's leaders and both in public office and in the field of journalism he exerted a most strongly felt influence in meeting the problems which successive years brought forth. John Hay has made the name of Warsaw, Illinois, one familiar to American people throughout the length and breadth of the land, for in that town the period of his boyhood and youth were passed. He was born in Salem, Indiana, October 8, 1838, but was only three years of age when the family removed to Warsaw, where he pursued his early education in a little brick schoolhouse, there conning his lessons until he reached the age of thirteen. His father instructed him in Greek and Latin and when, at the age of thirteen, he went to Pittsfield, Illinois, to attend a private school for a year and a half and later entered Brown University at the age of fifteen, he passed his entrance examinations so creditably in both Greek and Latin that the examiner made special inquiry as to where he had received his preparation. He answered with great pride—from his father. At various times his college course was interrupted but as opportunity offered he continued his studies and throughout life remained a student in the school of experience and the post-graduate school of affairs. Early financial losses which his father sustained made it necessary for John Hay to provide for his own support at a tender age and he became newspaper carrier with the Warsaw Signal, in which appeared his first literary production, the editor encouraging

his writing. He was graduated from Brown University in 1858 and during his college days he wrote poems and various articles which brought him fame in authorship in later years. Several decades had passed, however, before he would consent to publishing his writings in book form. In his early manhood he showed some tendency toward entering the ministry but family persuasion influenced him to take up the study of law. Prior to this, however, he spent some time in Pittsfield, Illinois, where John Nicolay had a newspaper office, and while there he not only formed the acquaintance of Mr. Nicolay but also of General Clark E. Carr, of Galesburg, afterward minister to Denmark, thus entering upon connection with distinguished citizens of the state. He became a law student in the office of his uncle, Milton Hay, a prominent lawyer who was associated in practice with Abraham Lincoln at Springfield, and while pursuing his law studies there John Hay formed the acquaintance of the martyr president. The story of the friendship thus begun has become a matter of history. He was invited to continue his preparation for the bar in Mr. Lincoln's office and he entered heartily into the work of supporting the Illinois presidential candidate during the campaign of 1860. That Mr. Lincoln was appreciative of his services is shown by the fact that after going to Washington he invited Mr. Hay to become assistant secretary to John G. Nicolay. From that time forward he rendered much able assistance to Mr. Lincoln, performing important tasks that had direct bearing upon the administration and the nation's welfare. He was often entrusted to carry messages too momentous to commit to paper.

Although a warm admirer of President Lincoln, it was with reluctance and regret that Mr. Hay turned from his chosen profession of the law to enter the political field, but Lincoln had recognized his discernment, his judgment, his tact and his discretion and realized that his services might be of the utmost value to the administration in Washington. He was constantly with the president in close conference throughout the four years of his term save for the brief period when he served, more as the president's personal representative, on the staffs of Generals Hunter and Gilmore, after which he was brevetted lieutenant colonel. Speaking of this period of Mr. Hay's life, Grandon Nevins has written: "No man in the president's official household was more overworked than the young major. He slept when he could and ate when he had the chance, and when he was not at the front he lived at the White House, always at the call of the president." Mr. Hay was but twenty-six years of age at the time of Lincoln's assassination, but so thoroughly had he proved his

worth that it was decided to retain him in the government employ and he was sent abroad to become secretary of the legation at Paris under Minister Bigelow, in which capacity he served from 1865 until 1867. In the succeeding year he became charge d'affaires in Vienna and later was secretary of the legation at Madrid under Minister Sickles, there remaining until 1870. He refused a very advantageous offer from Horace Greeley, then editor of the New York Tribune, saying that he did not think it proper to turn his work over to other hands until it was completed. The same spirit of loyalty and fidelity to duty characterized his entire life. When he returned to the United States, free to accept the position, he became an editorial writer for the New York Tribune. In the meantime he was for a few months connected with the Springfield (Ill.) Journal, after which he succeeded Charles Dana as editor of the Republican at Chicago, Illinois. For five years he was connected with the New York Tribune and demonstrated his right to rank with the leading American journalists. He also became known as an author of considerable literary merit and ability. He brought forth a volume of poems, including Jim Bludso, Little Breeches and many others, which were published under the name of the Pike County Ballads.

On severing his connection with the New York Tribune, Mr. Hay went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he remained for some years. He declined a position as editor in chief of the New York Herald, then published by James Gordon Bennett. He was afterward again for a brief period connected with journalism, having charge of the New York Tribune in 1881, during a brief absence of the late White-law Reid in Europe. Much of his time during fifteen years was devoted to writing, in collaboration with John G. Nicolay, a history of Abraham Lincoln, which is beyond doubt the most exhaustive, accurate and authentic biography of the war president. Mr. Hay's writings altogether have embraced a wide field, for he is the author of various works, political and otherwise, and many attribute to him the authorship of a novel which appeared anonymously in 1893 under the title of *The Bread Winners*.

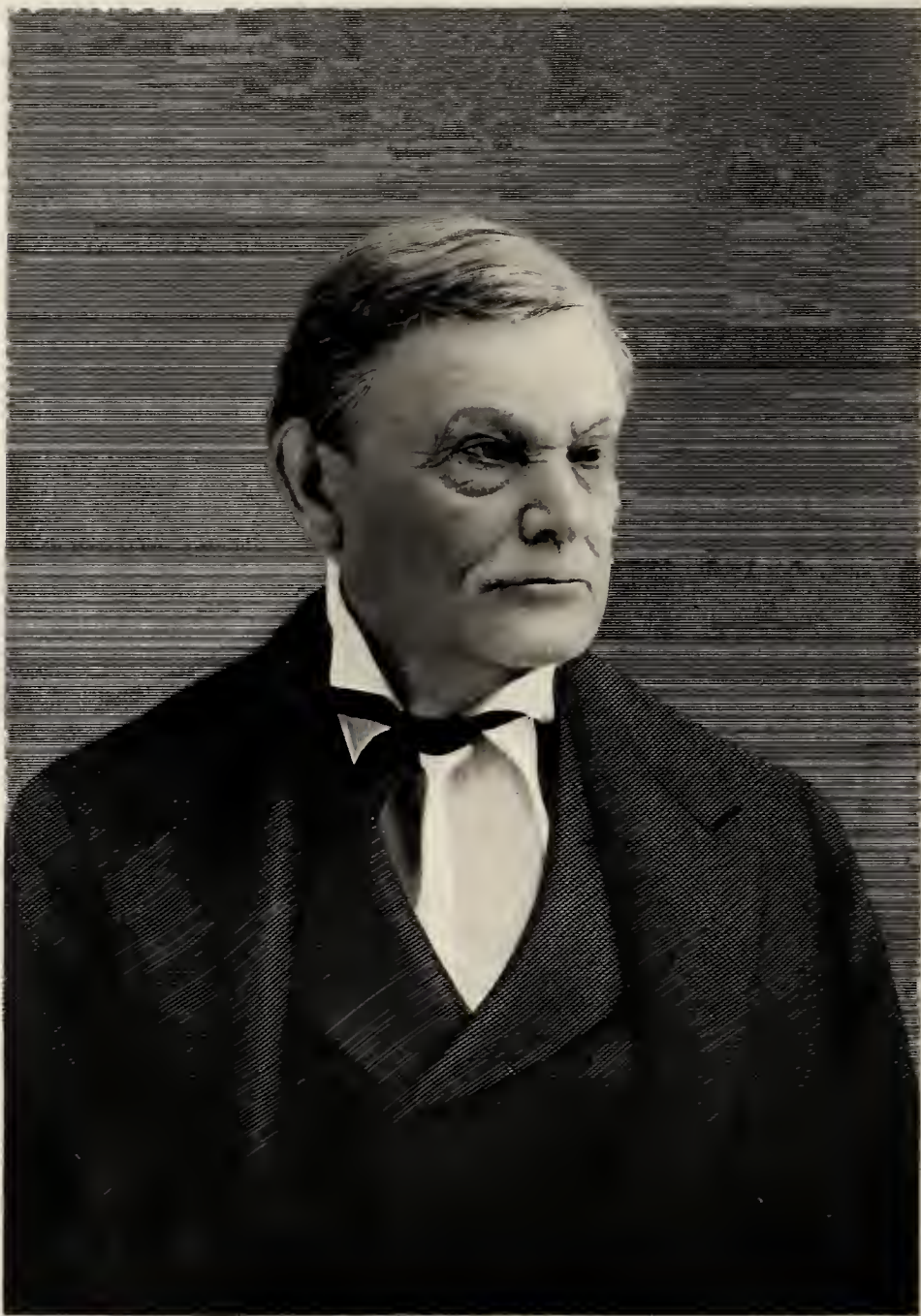
After retiring to Cleveland Mr. Hay was again called to public office, in 1879, to serve as assistant secretary of state under Evarts and continued in that position until the end of the administration. Sixteen years passed and he was once more in office, having in March, 1897, been appointed by President McKinley ambassador to England. His diplomatic service constitutes an interesting chapter of American history. He managed international affairs during the Spanish-American war with a delicacy and tact, combined with force and dis-

cretion, that gained for our government the support of England, and that country held in check the other powers of the world. Near the close of the war he returned to the United States and became secretary of state in the cabinet of President McKinley, in which position he was continued by President Roosevelt, thus serving to the time of his death, which occurred July 1, 1905, when he was nearly sixty-seven years of age.

In 1874 John Hay was married to Miss Clara L. Stone, a daughter of Amasa Stone, a prominent citizen of Cleveland, Ohio. They became the parents of four children. Mr. Hay passed away at the summer home of the family at Lake Sunapee, New Hampshire. Of him it has been written: "There was perhaps no man in Washington or in diplomatic circles more greatly loved, owing to his personal traits, and no man at the nation's capital was the object of more general affection than he \* \* \*. No man in public life has had so few enemies. Even those opposed to him politically entertained for him the warmest personal regard and admiration. It is said that he never forgot a friend; the playmates of his boyhood, the associates of his early manhood, those with whom he labored in diplomatic circles, in journalism and in the department of state were alike remembered through all the years, with their added responsibilities and honors."







DR. CHARLES HAY

## Charles Hay, M. D.



R. CHARLES HAY attained to an honorable old age. Much of his life was spent at Warsaw and in Hancock county, and all who knew him bore testimony of his many splendid traits of character and his nobility of purpose. He was born in Fayette county, Kentucky, February 7, 1801, and on the paternal side came of Scotch ancestry, the line being traced back to John Hay, who with his four sons emigrated from the Rhenish Palatinate to America in the eighteenth century. This John Hay was the son of a Scotch soldier who had left his own country about fifty years before and had attached himself to the army of the elector of the Palatinate. Following their arrival in the new world the four brothers separated, John Hay, the eldest, becoming a resident of York, Pennsylvania. There he prospered in business and accumulated considerable property. He also served as one of the magistrates of the state during the Colonial period. He was interested in the great questions which called forth public opinion prior to the Revolutionary war and advocated the cause of liberty. He filled several important offices on the organization of the patriot forces preparatory to the Revolution and when the war broke out joined the military organization and won promotion to the rank of colonel. Following the establishment of a republic he represented York county in the assembly. Another brother, Adam Hay, who like his brother John had received military training in Europe, became a resident of Berkeley county, Virginia, and when the colonists attempted to throw off the yoke of British oppression he, too, joined the American army and aided in the establishment of independence. He was a friend and associate of Washington and one of the earliest recollections of his son, the late John Hay, of Springfield, Illinois, was of their meeting Washington on a country road and seeing him greet Adam Hay as an old comrade.

It was the John Hay just mentioned who became the father of Dr. Charles Hay, of Warsaw. He was born February 13, 1779, and spent his youthful days at home, but when a young man decided to set out in life on his own account. His father provided him with

money sufficient to enable him to take up a good piece of land in Fayette county, Kentucky, and he made further arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Jemima Coulter. As the years passed children were added to the household to the number of fourteen. For thirty years John Hay remained in Fayette county, Kentucky, but his opposition to the institution of slavery determined him to take his family from that state and when fifty-five years of age he removed to Sangamon county, Illinois, accompanied by all of his children except his eldest son, Dr. Charles Hay, who had already begun the practice of medicine in Indiana. It was the intention of John Hay to engage in the manufacture of cotton goods in Illinois and he brought with him machinery and appliances necessary for such an undertaking, but it proved unprofitable and he later turned his attention to other things. He dealt to a considerable extent in land and won success in that way. He was a devoted personal friend of Lincoln and was acquainted with many of the prominent citizens of the state.

Dr. Charles Hay, spending his youth in Kentucky, was provided with the best educational advantages that the state offered. He supplemented his common-school training with a course in a classical school in Lexington, Kentucky, and when he had determined to make the practice of medicine his life work he began reading under the direction of Dr. William H. Richardson and afterward continued his studies under Dr. Dudley and others, who were prominent in the medical profession in Kentucky at that day. His college training was received in the medical department of Transylvania University and after winning his M. D. degree he located for practice in Salem, Indiana, where he remained for ten years.

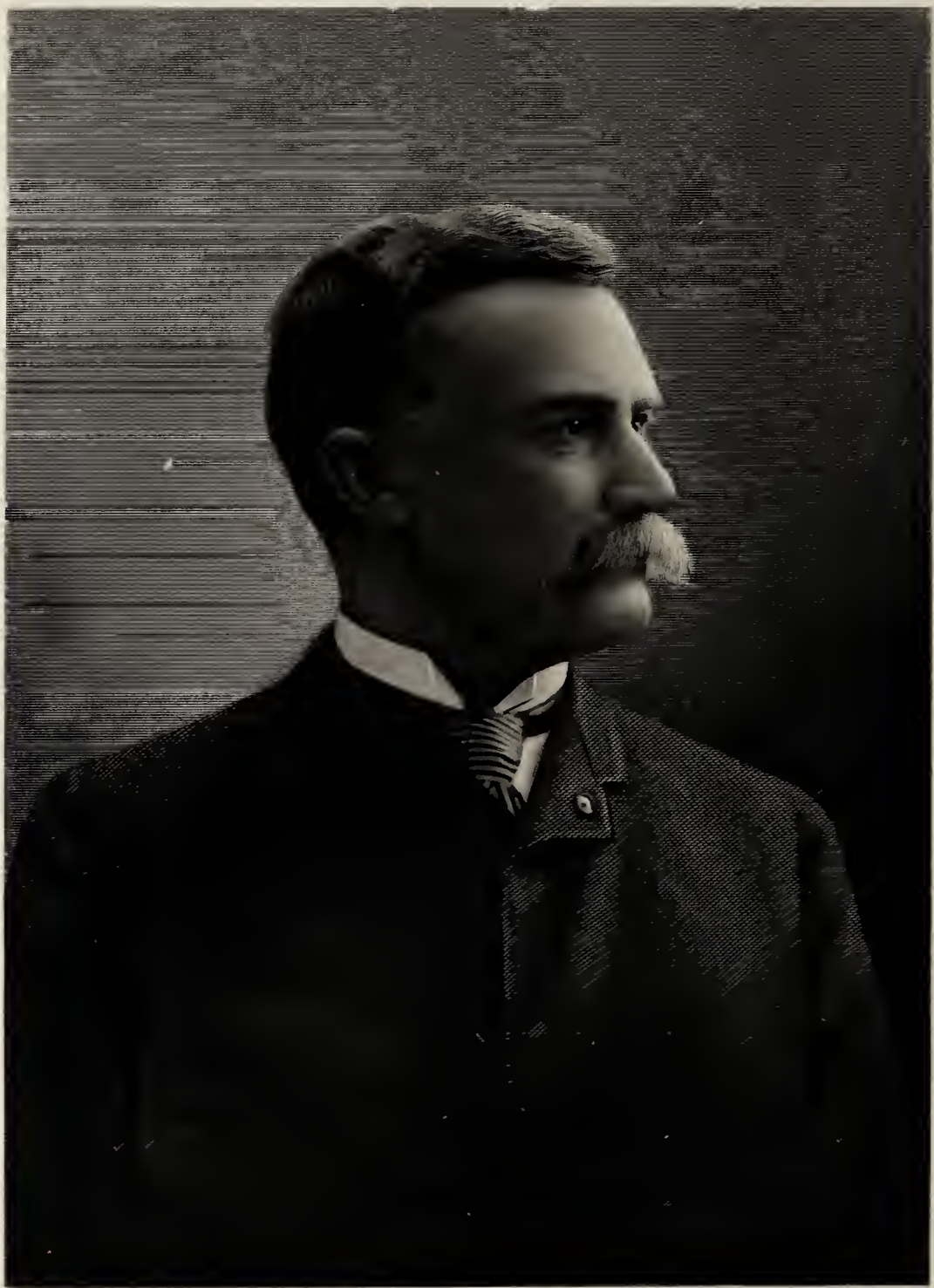
It was while residing there that Dr. Hay was married, in October, 1831, to Miss Helen Leonard, a daughter of Rev. David A. Leonard, of Bristol, Rhode Island, her father being a man of prominence in the beginning of the nineteenth century. Following his marriage Dr. Hay established his bride in his Salem (Indiana) home and while living there had a large practice. He was recognized as a leader in the whig party and in Salem became the editor of a weekly whig paper which he conducted for several years. In 1841 he removed to Warsaw, Illinois, where he remained until his death, and during that period was accounted one of the prominent citizens of his locality. He devoted most of his time and money to the interests of the people at large. He was instrumental in establishing a free library in Warsaw and for many years was president of its board. All who knew him—and his acquaintance was wide—entertained for him high and

enduring regard and acknowledged the worth of his labors as factors in the upbuilding of his section.

Unto Dr. and Mrs. Charles Hay there were born six children: Edward Leonard, who died in infancy; Leonard Augustus, a retired army officer who died in Warsaw, November 12, 1904; Mary Pierce, the widow of Major Austin Coleman Woolfolk, a quartermaster of the United States army and afterward a circuit judge in Minneapolis; John Hay, secretary of state under President Roosevelt; Charles Edward, a captain of the Third United States Cavalry and afterward twice elected mayor of Springfield, Illinois; and Helen, who became the wife of Howard Otis Whitney and died in 1873. Dr. and Mrs. Hay devoted their lives to their children and no sacrifice on their part was considered too great if it would promote the welfare, comfort and happiness of their sons and daughters. They celebrated their golden wedding in October, 1881, and on the 18th of September, 1884, Dr. Hay passed away. In a letter to one of his sons, written on his seventy-fifth birthday, he said: "I have never been conscious of but one ambition and that I have had all my days. I have always wished to found a family; I mean this, of course, not in any aristocratic, still less in any plutocratic sense, but I have hoped to leave behind me children and children's children—and the greater the number the better I would be pleased—with whom intelligence, honor and thrift would be matters of instinct and tradition. I would prefer a certainty of this in the future to any amount of personal distinction for myself, if the choice were left to me." His wish was certainly gratified. Few men live to see such perfect fulfillment of a hope as came to him. His sons and daughters did honor to the family name, one attaining national prominence as a statesman, while the record of each was creditable, conforming as it did to high standards.







MAJOR LEONARD HAY

## Major Leonard A. Hay

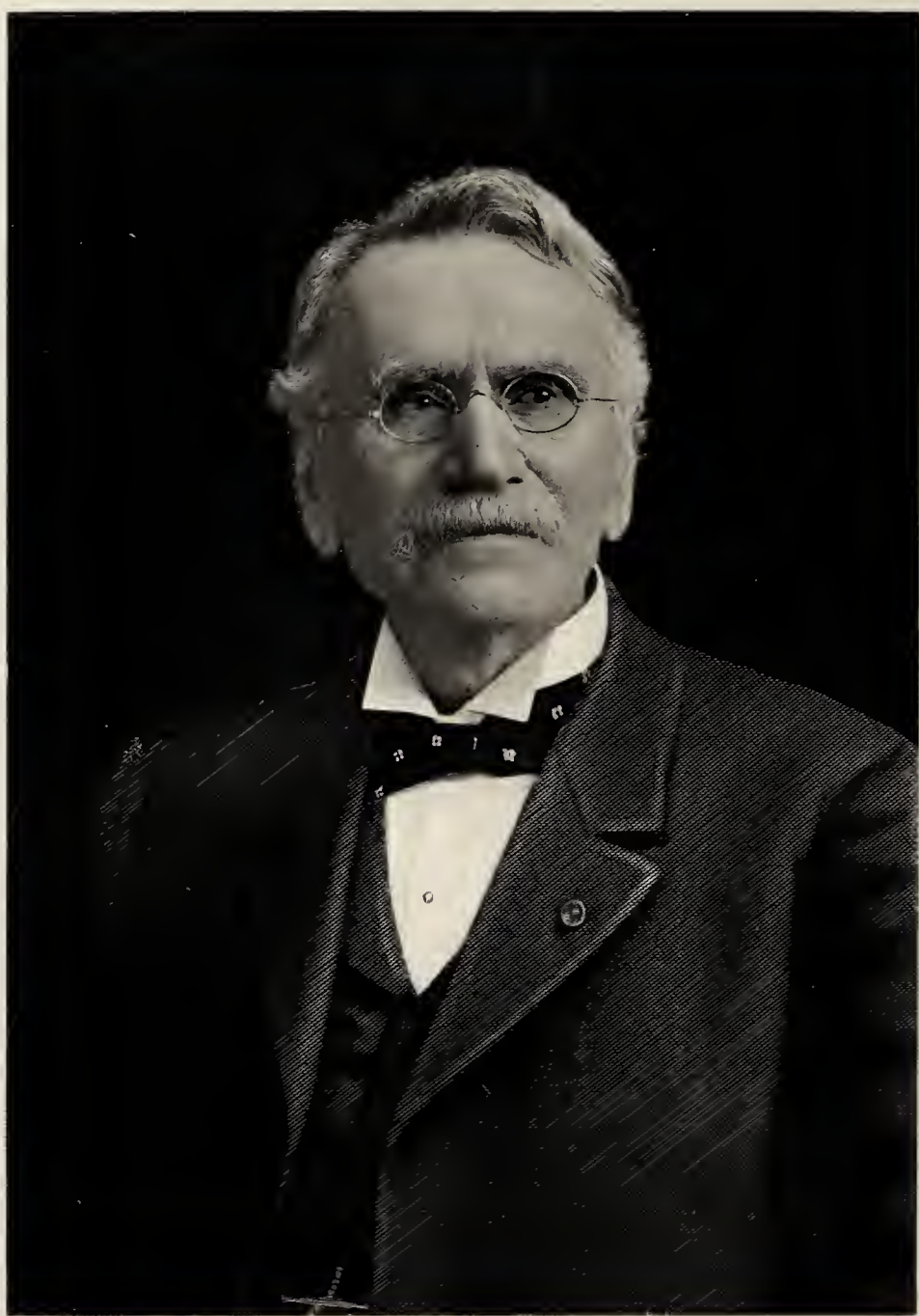


HERE are indeed few families to whom distinction has come in so large a measure as to that of Dr. Charles Hay of Warsaw. His sons attained prominence in state or nation and his daughters became the wives of eminent men. On the pages of America's military history appears the name of Major Leonard A. Hay, who followed his Civil war service with long connection with the regular army, embracing arduous Indian campaigning in the west. Later he returned to his old home at Warsaw, Illinois, and did much to establish there an atmosphere of literary culture and intellectual progress. He was born in Salem, Indiana, December 3, 1834, the second son of Dr. Charles and Helen (Leonard) Hay, who arrived with their family at Warsaw, Illinois, when Leonard was but seven years of age. After acquiring a public-school education he became identified with various business enterprises and had become established in an independent business venture at the time of the outbreak of hostilities between the north and the south. On the 2d of July, 1864, he joined the Union army as a private of Company D, Third Battalion, Fifteenth Infantry, and later was appointed a second lieutenant of the regular army, at which time he was assigned to the Ninth Infantry, continuing with that regiment throughout the period of his service. On the 29th of September, 1864, he was commissioned a first lieutenant and on the 11th of March, 1878, was made a captain in the Ninth Regular Infantry. His duty took him to various places on the frontier from the Dakotas southward to Arizona and from the Missouri river to the Pacific coast. Many Indian uprisings necessitated prompt and decisive action on the part of the United States troops to quell the outbreak and his duties were often of a most difficult, arduous and dangerous character. Major Hay continued in command of his company in active service until the 15th of June, 1891, when he was retired because of disability incurred in the line of his duty. Campaigning against the Indians on the frontier in all kinds of weather had impaired his health and he retired to Warsaw to

pass his remaining days amid the scenes in which his boyhood and youth had been spent. Here, in accord with an act of congress conferring additional rank on officers who had served in the Civil war, he was made a major, retired.

On the 5th of December, 1869, in New York, was celebrated the marriage of Major Hay and Miss Blanch d'Ormond, whose death occurred about two decades ago. They had no children. Major Hay, however, was particularly fond of children and young people and by them was greatly beloved. He passed away on November 12, 1904, answering to the last roll call and adding one more to the list of Illinois' honored soldiers dead. Of him it has been written: "Major Hay was a man of superior intellectual force whose leisure was largely spent in reading and study, and his scholarly attainments and broad culture made him a charming and entertaining companion. He held friendship inviolable and nothing could swerve him in his loyalty to a friend, whose claims upon his time and attention were at all times recognized. He was always interested in the welfare of the city and served on the library board in 1892, but he preferred that his public service should be done as a private citizen rather than as an office holder. In his later years the selection of books for the public library was left almost wholly to him. In manner he was free from ostentation and display, and in all he said and did he had the unfailing courtesy of a gentleman of the old school."





Prof. J. Henderson.

## General Thomas J. Henderson



MAN more honest and devoted to the best interests of his constituents never entered the halls of congress, and those that knew him best do not hesitate to say that he was in every respect a noble type of American manhood," was written of General Thomas J. Henderson; and his course in congress was characteristic of his entire career. The public service of few men has extended over a longer period and none has been more faultless in honor, fearless in conduct and stainless in reputation. He passed away on the 5th of February, 1911, in Washington, D. C.,—one of the last of the Old Guard who had personal acquaintance with Lincoln. He was a native of Tennessee, born November 29, 1824, and his parents were Colonel William H. and Sarah M. Henderson. The father was born in Garrard county, Kentucky, November 16, 1793, and there spent his boyhood and youth. He was nineteen years of age when he enlisted in the regiment of mounted riflemen commanded by Colonel Richard M. Johnson and served during the War of 1812. For a number of years he followed surveying in his native state and in 1823 he removed to Stewart county, Tennessee, where he not only engaged in surveying but also filled a number of offices of honor and trust. He was sheriff of his county and following his removal to Haywood county of the same state was elected to the state senate, which position he resigned in 1836 preparatory to his removal to Illinois. He also acted as the first register of deeds in Haywood county, recording the first deed the year in which the birth of his son Thomas occurred. Following his removal to Illinois in 1836 he settled on a farm in what was then Putnam but is now Stark county. Here his business ability and public-spirited citizenship met with almost immediate recognition, as indicated in his election to the general assembly in 1838. In the succeeding session of 1838-9 the legislature met for the last time at Vandalia, and there in the discharge of his official duties Mr. Henderson was associated with Lincoln, Edwards and other notable men of that day. He was also a member of the house at its first meeting in Springfield in the winter of 1840-1. During his legislative service he was instrumental in the creation and

organization of Stark county. In 1842 he was made the whig candidate for lieutenant governor but was defeated. He left Illinois in 1845 to become a resident of Johnson county, Iowa, where he purchased and conducted a large farm to the time of his death, which occurred January 27, 1864, when he was seventy-one years of age.

The public schools of Tennessee afforded General Henderson his early educational opportunities and he also attended the male academy at Brownsville. During his last year there he entered upon the study of law. He accompanied his parents on their removal to Stark county, Illinois, and became a pupil in the pioneer schools of that locality. Subsequent to the removal to Johnson county, Iowa, he spent one term as a student in the State University at Iowa City. In the meantime he had entered upon the profession of teaching in the country schools. On leaving the Iowa University he returned to Stark county, Illinois, and engaged as teacher in the first school building erected at Toulon. For nearly a year thereafter he was employed as clerk in a store and in the fall of 1847 he made his initial step in that public career which was to bring him fame, prominence and honor. At that date he was elected clerk of the county commissioner's court of Stark county and continued as the incumbent until the office was changed to that of clerk of the county court. He was elected thereto and served until 1853.

In the meantime General Henderson had established a home of his own through his marriage on the 29th of May, 1849, to Miss Henrietta Butler, who was born in New York city, August 11, 1830, and is a daughter of Captain Henry and Rebecca (Green) Butler, of Wyoming, Illinois. They became the parents of four children: Gertrude R., the wife of C. J. Dunbar; Sarah E., the wife of C. M. Durlley; Mary L., the wife of John Farnsworth; and Thomas B., of Princeton.

While acting as county clerk General Henderson continued his law studies until in 1852 he passed examination and was admitted to practice. On the expiration of his term as clerk in 1853 he opened an office in Toulon and entered upon the active work of the profession. He was not long in proving his ability to handle important litigated interests and at the same time he continued active in politics, being elected in 1854 to the state legislature, in which he served for two years. On the expiration of that term he was chosen state senator and was at that time the youngest member of the upper house. He had been elected representative as an anti-Nebraska man; to the senate as a republican. Those were exciting times. The celebrated Kansas-Nebraska act had been passed and the southern states were

attempting to force slavery upon the newly organized territories. General Henderson entered ardently into the contest to save the north from the invasion of slavery. Events culminated in the inauguration of the Civil war in the spring of 1861, and General Henderson, fired by unquenchable patriotism, addressed his fellow citizens in almost every schoolhouse in Stark county, urging enlistments and pleading with all to stand by the administration of Lincoln and the Union. He did much valuable service in this connection but his strong desire to be at the front prompted his enlistment in the summer of 1862. This required sacrifice of personal interests, necessitating leaving his wife and little children as well as abandoning a growing law practice. However, duty with him was paramount and he succeeded in raising a company which became a part of the One Hundred and Twelfth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Governor Yates gave his permission for the regiment to elect its colonel and Mr. Henderson was unanimously chosen. On the 22d of September, 1862, the command was mustered in and at once proceeded to the front. In the memorial of General Henderson prepared by the surviving members of his regiment, his war record is given as follows: "He commanded a brigade in a cavalry corps of the Army of the Ohio during the winter of 1863-4, and commanded a brigade of infantry in the Twenty-third Corps, Army of the Ohio, from August 12, 1864, to the end of the war. He was severely wounded in the battle of Resaca, Georgia, May 14, 1864. He was recommended for promotion by his superior officers, division, corps and army commanders for gallant and meritorious service in the Georgia and Tennessee campaigns, in the year 1864, and especially in the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, November 30, 1864, and was appointed by President Lincoln, brigadier general by brevet, January 5, 1865, to rank from November 30, 1864. General Henderson was a strict disciplinarian, but he governed by kindness, by appealing to the manhood and patriotism of his men rather than by harsh or severe measures. No member of the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois ever suffered any humiliating punishment or public disgrace for offenses committed in the army. There was none of that pompous, overbearing, self-superior manner often seen in army officers in their intercourse with their men. He was courteous and kind to his men and took an active interest in their welfare while in the army, as he has done ever since. He was a commander in every sense of the word and enforced his authority as such; but he was also a comrade and a friend to every member of his regiment; and every man honored and respected him, and cheerfully obeyed his orders, and loved him

as a comrade and a friend. In a letter from the division commander to General Henderson, written on the eve of the muster-out of the regiment, the writer said: 'There are few regiments in the service which have a more creditable record, or one of which they and their children may be more justly proud than that of the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois. \* \* \* But your regiment gained its laurels not on the battlefield alone. It has won a reputation for order, discipline and strict regard for law and the rights of non-combatants which gives it an enviable standing among the volunteer soldiers of the Union.' On several occasions the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois was called upon to perform special service on account of its reputation for order and discipline and the high character of its officers, and men, and the confidence of superior officers in their morals and efficiency. The regiment won the highest regard of citizens and soldiers of other regiments for its good conduct in camp, its orderly appearance on the march, and its steady bearing and courage in action. And we owe the excellent reputation of the regiment, of which we are all justly proud, to the wisdom, patriotism and firmness of General Henderson, and to his careful instruction and kindly advice in the early days of our service. General Henderson was not only a brave and faithful soldier, but a statesman as well, and served his country faithfully many years in the halls of congress and in other positions of honor and trust. As a citizen, as a soldier, as a statesman, as an honorable, upright, noble man, he was respected and loved by all who knew him."

At the close of the war General Henderson resumed his law practice in Toulon, where he remained until March, 1867, when he became a resident of Princeton and entered into partnership with Joseph I. Taylor, which connection was discontinued in 1871 on the appointment of General Henderson by President Grant to the office of United States collector of internal revenue for the fifth Illinois district, with headquarters at Peoria. During his two years' incumbency in that position he collected and turned over to the government more than nine million dollars. He remained to the end of his life an active factor in military circles. In 1868 he was one of the presidential electors for the state at large and supported General Grant. In 1870 he unsuccessfully sought the nomination for congress, but in 1874 was elected to the forty-fourth congress from the sixth district. During that term he served on the railways, canals and pension committees; in the forty-fifth congress he served on claims; in the forty-sixth, on commerce; in the forty-seventh he was chairman of the committee on military affairs; in the forty-eighth, forty-ninth and fiftieth

congresses he served on the committee on rivers and harbors; in the fifty-first he was chairman of the committee on rivers and harbors; and in the fifty-second and fifty-third he served on rivers and harbors, and also on banking and currency. For eight years he served as a member from the sixth district and for twelve years from the seventh. After each term he was renominated by acclamation. In all General Henderson served the people faithfully and well for twenty years. His greatest service as a member of congress, as he regarded it, was rendered as a member of the committees on commerce and on rivers and harbors, in the improvement of the waterways of the country, and his principal achievement was the securing of the construction of the Hennepin canal, and this is a movement of which he may well be proud. The Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, in biographical mention of General Henderson, said: "For twenty years he was one of the most popular of the soldier statesmen in congress, and his name stands for honesty, integrity and everything that is good in politics and public life. No man in Bureau county in the past twenty years has stood nearer the hearts of the people. General Henderson was one of the last of the Civil war statesmen who knew and enjoyed the friendship and confidence of Lincoln. In the early days of his long political career he was intimately associated with the future president and while a member of the Illinois legislature, before the breaking out of the war, he was privileged to do many favors for Lincoln, including a loyal support of his candidacy for the United States senate in 1854. In the later years of his life, when the incidents of those stirring days preceding and during the Civil war had become invested with the glory which history weaves about the worthy deeds of men, the General entertained a just pride in his association with the men and affairs of the war times, and his most treasured possessions were those which were linked with the hallowed memory of Lincoln and the war. Among these was a series of letters written to him and to his father, William H. Henderson, by Lincoln, referring to Lincoln's candidacy for the senatorship and the faithful allegiance accorded him by the Princeton statesman. Most of the letters are still preserved in the family records of the Henderson family." General Henderson was ever a most warm and devoted admirer of President Lincoln and at the time of his death was preparing an address to be delivered before the Lincoln Club of Newark, New Jersey. After his demise the manuscript of this address was found, and in referring to a speech of Lincoln from which he quoted largely, General Henderson said: "I doubt if a more eloquent outburst of pure, exalted patriotism, love of one's own land and country, and devotion

to duty and to principle was ever uttered by any other man in all the world's history. And was not this love of country, this devotion to duty and to principle exhibited in all the acts of Abraham Lincoln as president of the United States, in his heroic and patriotic efforts to maintain and preserve the government of his country and suppress the rebellion, and that from the very day of his election until his assassination, it seems so to me, he never faltered, he never wavered for one moment in his duty, 'that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.' "

While attending a meeting of the board of ordnance, of which he was a member, in Washington, General Henderson passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Farnsworth, February 5, 1911, and his remains were brought to Princeton for burial. On that occasion there were present the few surviving comrades of his old regiment; some who had been his devoted followers during his active political career, and some of the few surviving pioneers of Stark, Henry, Putnam and Bureau counties, where he was well known in the days of Illinois' early development. He had always maintained the deepest interest in local progress as well as in national affairs and he always felt the closest affection for his old army comrades. In 1896 he was appointed a member of the board of managers of the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers and Sailors, serving successively as secretary, second vice president and first vice president of the board to the time of his demise. On the 18th of January, 1900, he was appointed civil member of the board of ordnance and fortifications and was also acting in that capacity at the time of his demise. The Loyal Legion, in its memorial, said, after commenting upon his public career: "And so we note fifty-two years—more than half a century—of the life of our companion was spent in the public service. He was intensely patriotic and was ever mindful of his patriotic duties in private and public life, and proved his devotion to his country on many a hard-fought field of battle, as well as in the halls of congress. He was learned in his profession, able as an advocate, always affable and courteous and a strict observer of the ethics of his profession. He was an honest, generous, able man, sincere in his convictions and strong in his adherence to what he believed. His military record with that of the regiment and brigades he commanded formed no small part of the history of the great struggle for the preservation of the Union. 'Always hopeful, always prompt, always courteous, a most loyal subordinate and a most able and devoted leader,' was the tribute paid him by Major General J. D. Cox, under whose command he rendered long service. This compli-

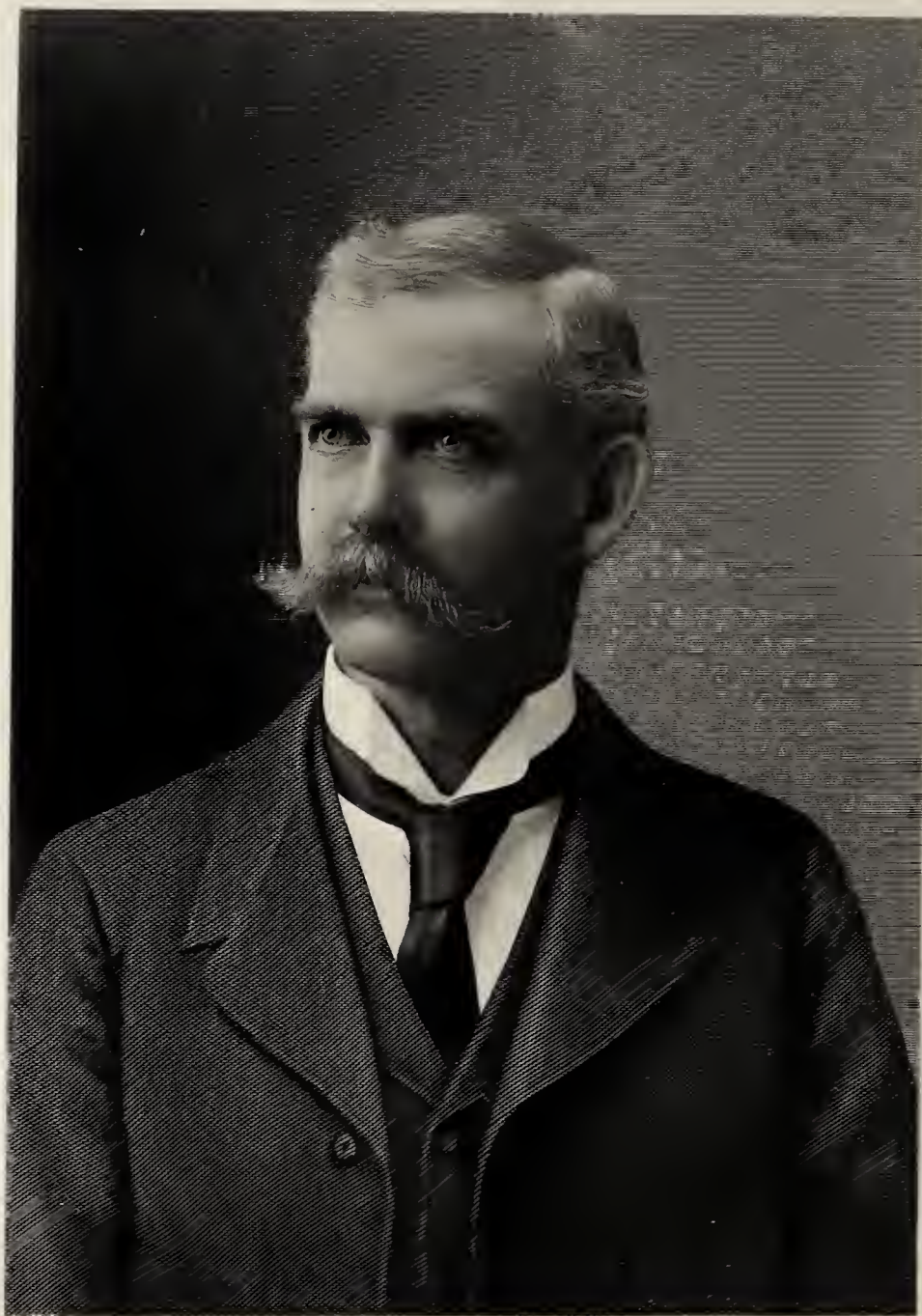
ment is quite enough to inscribe his name among the noblest and bravest of the many heroes who rendered gallant service in that mighty struggle for union and liberty and humanity. But after all, the crowning glory of General Henderson's life was his high character and great, tender and loving heart. Although as strong as a lion, he was as gentle as a child; although able and learned, he was modest and unassuming. He was kind to all and generous to a fault. His loving heart and genial nature won for him in return the most sincere love and affection of all who knew him. Kind thoughts and kind words were habits of his life—the natural impulses of his heart.

'He never made a brow look dark,  
Nor caused a tear but when he died.' "










CHAS. A. PALMER, M.D.

## C. A. Palmer, M. D.

VERY generation produces men who rise to positions of leadership and who well deserve the honor and esteem of those who know them. They leave their impression upon their day and generation and their names deserve to be imprinted upon the pages of the history of the state for they have themselves been active in framing its history. Such a one was Charles Albert Palmer, physician and surgeon, a man of notable moral courage—courage that enabled him to resolutely face every situation. Princeton claimed him among her native sons, his birth having occurred September 8, 1855, of the marriage of George N. and Ellen M. Palmer. In his youthful days he was a pupil of the public schools and afterward continued his education in Princeton high school, which he entered in 1870, completing his course by graduation with the class of 1873. Immediately afterward he entered upon the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. George W. Crossley, and later in the same year matriculated in the Chicago Medical School, which is the medical department of the Northwestern University. He mastered the three years' course and was graduated with honors in 1876, his high scholarship winning him appointment to the position of interne in Mercy Hospital of Chicago, where he supplemented his theoretical training by much practical knowledge gained in the active and varied work of his profession, common in hospital practice. In 1877 he returned to Princeton where he opened an office. He was never content with the knowledge that he had already gained and throughout his life remained a close student of the science of medicine. In 1881 and at other times he pursued post-graduate work in the medical college of Chicago and in the east. He remained an active practitioner in Princeton from 1877 until his death and was one of the most liberally patronized and highly beloved physicians of the city. He held membership in the Bureau County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and was always deeply interested in anything which tended to bring to man the key to the complex mystery which we call life. Not seeking honor but merely endeavoring to do his duty, honors were yet multiplied

unto him and prosperity followed his undertakings. The broader spirit of the new century found expression in his professional progress.

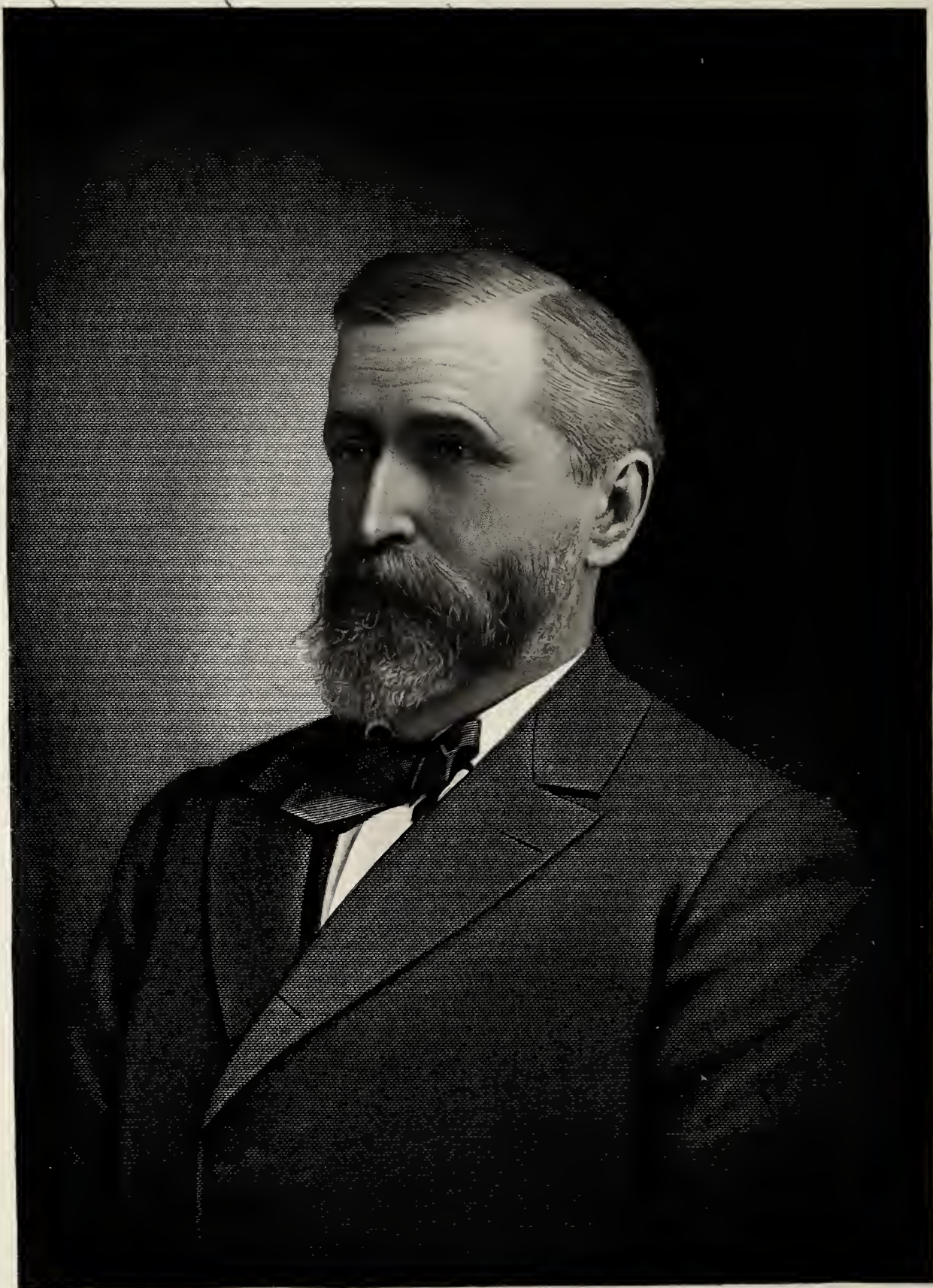
On the 19th of October, 1882, Dr. Palmer was united in marriage to Miss Jane I. Eckels and they became the parents of five children, Margaret, Charles, Alice, Eckels and Jean, all of whom are living with the exception of Eckels. Dr. Palmer was very greatly interested in public life and civic interests and for seven years rendered efficient aid to the public schools as a member of the board of education. He was also for ten years a trustee of the high school of Princeton township, Bureau county, and he was twice chosen chief executive of Princeton, proving a most capable official in the mayor's chair. He was an independent democrat and was for a number of years chairman of the county organization. To each position, which he filled, he brought his best efforts, combined with a determination to accomplish what he believed to be for the public good. He held membership with the different Masonic bodies, with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and various other organizations. He was not only interested in the secular life of the community but also gave earnest thought to the spiritual needs of man's nature. He was a member of the First Presbyterian church, was actively interested in its work and gave generously to its support. Ill health prevented him from accepting the office of ruling elder when elected thereto. One of the local papers said of him at his demise: "His whole life was passed in this city. He moved in and out amongst its people and to its people he gave all that was best of himself. As a physician, as a citizen, as a husband, father or friend he was always ready to perform every obligation laid upon him. He was a man sincere, direct and honorable, upright in his dealings, just in his judgments, kindly and sympathetic to those in distress and totally unselfish in his dealings with his fellowmen. As he lived well so he goes from us, honored, respected and loved by his friends, his neighbors and by all who knew him." With wonderful courage he faced death. For two years he recognized and studied his own condition, waging war against the silent enemy, but even when he realized that he was losing ground his unruffled, tranquil mental attitude never changed. On his death bed he was the same calm, cheerful, composed and self-centered man the people had known in his office and on the street, in professional life, in business and social relations or in the many official capacities in which he had served his town and community. It was not only that he possessed the quality of cheerful courage but he also inspired others with something of the same virtue. Such a

spirit can never be lost to the world and must have stepped into a greater, more beautiful life when the door closed upon him and shut him from mortal vision. It is the uniform opinion in Princeton and wherever he was known, however, that such a friend, so dear, so loyal, so great-hearted can never be replaced to those who were his associates.









*J. B. Blackstone*

## Timothy Beach Blackstone



TO BUILD up rather than destroy was the broad policy upon which Timothy Beach Blackstone builded his business career. He attacked everything with a contagious enthusiasm and at all times his progressiveness was tempered by a safe conservatism that prevented unwarranted risks or failures. He was for thirty-five years the president of the Chicago & Alton Railway Company and previous to that time was connected for a brief period with other railway interests of the middle west. His birth occurred at Branford, Connecticut, March 28, 1829, and he traced his ancestors to William Blackstone, or Blaxton, as the name was sometimes spelled, who, according to authentic local records, was a resident of Boston as early as 1623. He owned and cultivated a small farm lying partly within the boundaries of what is now Boston Common. This William Blackstone was born in England in 1595 and arrived in New England about 1622, settling first in what is now Charlestown, Massachusetts. He had in England sold lands which had been held by at least eleven generations, having been handed down from another William Blackstone, who died in England in 1349. The American bearer of that name was married in Boston in 1659 to Mrs. Sarah Stevenson, widow of John Stevenson, the ceremony being performed by Governor John Endicott of the Massachusetts Bay colony. William Blackstone died in 1675 at Lonsdale, Rhode Island, to which place he removed soon after his marriage, and his grave is marked by an appropriate monument erected by manufacturers, who owned the land in later years. His only son, who was born in 1660, removed from Rhode Island to Connecticut and purchased land at Branford, whereon he died many years later. It was at the ancestral home there that James Blackstone was born and reared. He married Sarah, daughter of Asa Beach, of Branford, and he provided for his family by following the occupation of farming.

Timothy Beach Blackstone, son of James and Sarah Blackstone, devoted his time between the work of the fields and the acquirement of an education, but early displayed special aptitude in his studies so that his parents sent him to one of the best known academies in the

state. Ill health prevented the completion of his course and in 1848 he sought outdoor employment, becoming an assistant in a corps of engineers then engaged on the survey of the New York & New Haven Railroad. In this connection he displayed notable energy and perseverance and built up his physical manhood through outdoor life and labor. He was employed as rodman for a year and in the interval devoted himself to the study of civil engineering ere he became assistant engineer of the Stockbridge & Pittsfield Railway, built in 1849 and now a part of the Housatonic Railroad. He was variously employed in the east, his position being constantly of increasing importance until 1851, when he became chief engineer of the Illinois Central Railroad and came to the west, being placed in charge of that portion of the projected line between Bloomington and Dixon. For a number of years he was a resident of La Salle, Illinois, and when his surveys for the road were completed he superintended its construction. In 1856, two years after the Joliet & Chicago Railroad Company had secured a charter, Mr. Blackstone was appointed chief engineer and in this connection personally supervised both the location and building of the entire line, which operated in connection with other local roads of the state, success attending the branch of which Mr. Blackstone had charge although other lines with which it affiliated were not as prosperous. He superintended the laying out and building of the Joliet & Chicago, which was completed in 1857, and in 1861 he was chosen its president. At length it seemed necessary to reorganize the different railway lines of the St. Louis, Alton & Chicago and by legislative enactment a commission was created for that purpose, which in due time purchased the bankrupt portions of the line and perfected a new organization under the name of the Chicago & Alton Railway Company. In 1864 this corporation leased the Joliet & Chicago Railroad and Mr. Blackstone was elected to the directorate. Soon after his colleagues, recognizing his efficiency, initiative and unfaltering enterprise, chose him for the presidency of the company, of which he remained the head from 1864 until 1899. He acted for a quarter of a century as president without salary or reward of any kind, although he was frequently offered a salary by the board of directors. He seemed to grasp every detail of the situation as well as the great business principles involved, and under his presidency the road kept pace with the progress of the times and rapid growth of the great middle west. In a series of articles entitled "The Railroad Men of America" mention was made of Mr. Blackstone as follows:

"While several of the men now at the head of great railroad systems in the United States have, like Mr. Blackstone, climbed to their

present position from the lowest round of the ladder he has, perhaps, no contemporary who has for so long a time had so much to do with shaping the policies and controlling the destinies of a single corporation or who has retained so long the implicit confidence and good will of so large a body of shareholders in any similar enterprise."

Another biographer said, while Mr. Blackstone was still an active factor in the world's work:

"It is not too much to assert, that Mr. Blackstone's business qualities would have earned him success in any undertaking and prominence in any community. Like many another who has risen to eminence, accidental circumstances seem to have guided his early steps. Yet, by adopting the principle of doing with all his might whatever his hand found to do, he progressed steadily upwards; and at length, with a mind trained by study, observation and experience for greater things, he arrived at a higher goal than even his youthful ambition dreamed of, and one more replete with responsibility than many distinguished political positions. A quality possessed by many of the world's most successful men he has had in a marked degree, viz: that of quickly judging of the merits of his associates and assistants. His subordinates are all carefully selected as being the very best, each in his respective department. Merit is always recognized and in proper time receives its due reward. The most humble employe of the company does not work half so hard as its honored president, who regards himself as its chief servant as well as its chief executive officer, and labors assiduously and conscientiously to further its interests and to give a good account of his stewardship."

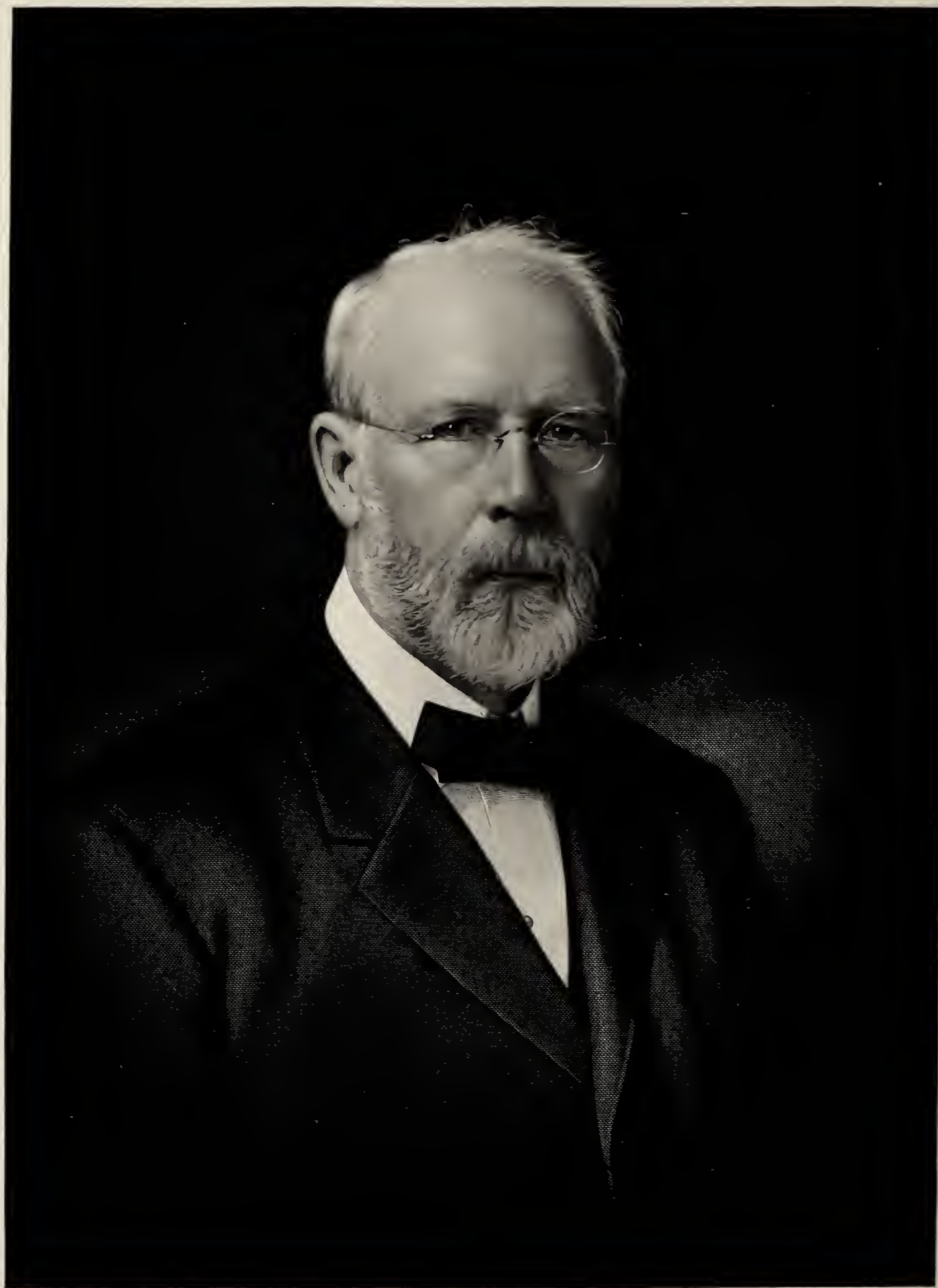
In 1868 Mr. Blackstone was married to Miss Isabella Farnsworth Norton, a native of Norwich, Connecticut, and a daughter of Henry B. Norton. In public affairs Mr. Blackstone was deeply interested although he never sought to figure prominently in political relations. In the early days of his residence in La Salle, however, he was elected mayor of the town in 1854 and retired from the office as he had entered it, with the confidence and good-will of all. He always stood for progress and improvement during the period of his residence in Chicago, cooperating in many important municipal projects. He was a most just and a most unselfish man, and much of his time in later years was devoted to aiding others. He built to the memory of his father probably the finest monument in America, expending more than a million dollars on it. This monument is in the shape of a beautiful library and music hall, in Branford, Connecticut, which he endowed so that it will be maintained for all time, and yet in this memorial to his father and gift to the town he completely effaced himself, there

being not a mark on the building to indicate that it was erected through the generosity and filial love of T. B. Blackstone. His father's face and form, however, are perpetuated in marble and upon canvas in the building, showing to this and future generations the likeness of the man who was prominent and honored in that town.

The death of T. B. Blackstone occurred on the 26th of May, 1900, and his widow has since erected the beautiful Blackstone Memorial Library building which stands on Forty-ninth street and Lake avenue. It was built in classical style of architecture and is a fitting monument to him who ever maintained a deep interest in the welfare of his fellow citizens. Mrs. Blackstone has since turned this over to the Chicago Public Library, so that it remains a radiating force in the culture and education of the people. Simple and unostentatious in his habits, remarkably genial and cordial in manner and open-hearted toward all benevolent projects, Timothy Beach Blackstone was indeed a useful, high-minded citizen.







*Michael Curthy*

## Michael Cudahy



BIOGRAPHY finds its justification not only in the fact that it is a memorial to the lives of great and good men but also in the fact that it is an incentive and an inspiration for the young. The record of no Chicago business man perhaps indicates more clearly what can be accomplished when energy, determination and ambition lead the way than that of Michael Cudahy. Entirely unostentatious and free from pretense, he devoted his life to his business, to his home and to his church, pursuing at all times the even tenor of his way. His quietude of deportment, his easy dignity, his frankness and cordiality of address, with a total absence of anything sinister or anything to conceal, indicated a man ready to meet any obligation of life with the confidence and courage that come of conscious personal ability, right conception of things and an habitual regard for what is best in the exercise of human activities. The world knew him as a successful man, yet attainment of wealth was never the ultimate aim and object of his life. He rejoiced in his prosperity because it gave him the opportunity to provide most liberally for his family, and to generously aid his fellowmen. Yet he was not always a wealthy man but started in the business world at a salary of six dollars per week. He was born in the historic old town of Callan, County Kilkenny, Ireland, December 7, 1841. His mother's people were for some time residents of Dublin but afterward removed to Callan, where they established a pottery for the manufacture of crockery. His grandfather, believing that better opportunities might be secured in the new world, brought his family to America in 1849, and soon afterward became a resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. At the age of fourteen, Michael Cudahy went to work for John Plankington in Mr. Plankington's packing house in Milwaukee. The father died not long afterward, and the support of the family devolved upon the sons. Michael Cudahy always attributed much of his success to the influence and encouragement of his mother, a most saintly woman, devoted to her family and counting no personal sacrifice on her part too great if it would promote the welfare of her children. She would often gather them around the table at night and hear their lessons and

when school books had to be put aside that they might enter the more difficult school of experience, she ever stood by them, their friend, their confidante, and their inspiration.

The industry which had ever been one of Michael Cudahy's marked characteristics was manifest at the outset of his business career and won him promotion from time to time. He was nineteen years of age when he accepted a position with Edward Roddis, also a Milwaukee packer, with whom he continued until the business was closed out in 1866. He afterward became private meat inspector for the firm of Layton & Company, and at the same time secured the position of meat inspector on the Milwaukee Board of Trade. He went to the packing house of Plankinton & Armour, of Milwaukee, in 1869, at the time when the total investment of the company in their plant, including machinery, would not exceed thirty-five thousand dollars. In the meantime, P. D. Armour was watching the young man who had been made manager of the Milwaukee business, and in 1875 called him to Chicago, saying that he had a place for him in this city. Mr. Cudahy accordingly removed to Chicago and for seventeen years remained with Mr. Armour, having complete control of the manufacturing end of the business. Most of the modern machinery and methods for utilizing the by-products, without which the packing business of today could not exist, were invented by Mr. Cudahy. When asked by a friend why he never had secured patents for any of his inventions, Mr. Cudahy replied that one year's start on any competitor was all the patent he desired. It is said that no man before or since has had a more thorough practical knowledge of the packing industry. Eventually he became a partner in the firm of Armour & Co. The friendship between Mr. Armour and Mr. Cudahy continued until the former's death. When the latter left him to engage in business for himself, Mr. Armour offered him a loan if at any time he desired it, but Mr. Cudahy never needed the proffered help. He had in the meantime acquired a thorough knowledge of the business in all of its different phases. He had a strong hold on the cattle men who in dealing with him always considered that they were doing business with an individual and not a firm. It was a current saying among business men that the word of Michael Cudahy was as good as any bond solemnized by signature or seal. On severing his connection with Mr. Armour, Mr. Cudahy took over the Omaha plant, but always continued a resident of Chicago. In 1887, the firm of The Armour-Cudahy Packing Company was formed, and subsequently the business was reorganized under the name of the Cudahy Packing Company. The firm soon established packing houses in

Omaha and Kansas City, and later in Sioux City, Iowa; Wichita, Kansas, and Los Angeles, California; and the scope of the business was further increased by the organization of branches in every important city of the United States and many cities abroad.

Mr. Cudahy did not devote all of his attention to the packing business. During the last fifteen years of his life he was actively engaged in the oil business,—both in the producing of crude oil and in the refining. He and his brother, John, were the pioneers in the development of the oil fields of the Indian Territory and Oklahoma; and in 1910, he organized the Cudahy Refining Company, which has a large refinery at Coffeyville, Kansas.

Mr. Cudahy was also a great trader, although he never approved of nor participated in “cornering” the market. He had a very unusual faculty of anticipating the future, and his trading operations were not confined to articles associated with his own business.

In 1866, Mr. Cudahy was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Sullivan, a daughter of John Sullivan, a prosperous farmer residing near Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They became the parents of four daughters and three sons: Mrs. William P. Nelson; Mary; Clara; Mrs. John B. Casserly; John P.; Joseph M.; and Edward I.

Mr. Cudahy gave his political support to the democratic party, yet did not hesitate to vote independently if he thought that the best interests of city or country would be promoted thereby.

Mr. Cudahy was a great lover of music, paintings, and books, and devoted a great deal of his spare time to reading. He was a great student of Carlyle, Bacon and Shakespeare, and knew by heart a great portion of Shakespeare's works.

It was well known that Mr. Cudahy was a most generous donor to charities, yet the extent of his benefactions will never be known. He rarely spoke of them even to his family, yet various Catholic institutions have received sums of from fifty to one hundred thousand dollars and to Protestant work he also gave liberally. During the last three years of his life, feeling that he had acquired enough of this world's goods for his individual needs and desires, he gave his entire income above that needed for the support of his family to benevolent institutions. One, writing of him said: “Home, religion and business—his devotion to this trinity was the key to the success in life of the late Michael Cudahy. So far as could be learned he had no rule nor set of rules which he followed. His was too broad a mind to be restricted to a formula from which he could not deviate.” There were those who saw him at home who felt that his most active interest in life was his devotion to wife and family; those who knew him as

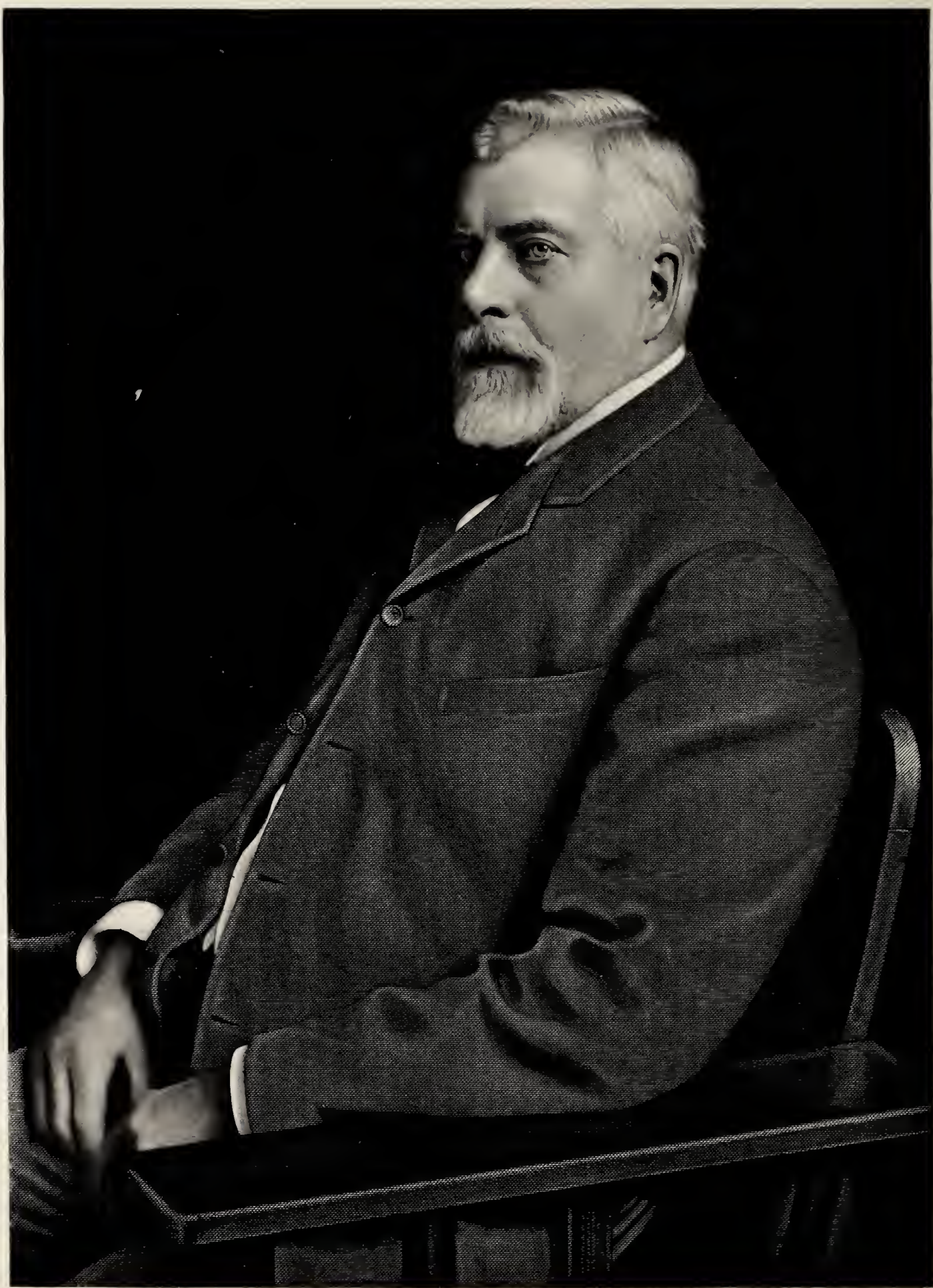
a business man felt that the packing business was ever his first consideration; but his religion and his family were paramount in his mind. He ever held membership in the Catholic church, being for over thirty years connected with St. James' church, and later he attended St. Mary's. He made provision in his will for the further support of many charities and benevolent institutions.

The secret of his successful life—and we use the term in its broadest sense—was his ability to concentrate his entire mind on the subject at hand, whether it pertained to religion, home or business. He was always a most approachable man, and in the many years in which it was his daily custom to walk from the packing house to the stock yards, there were many men who made it their habit to meet him along the way “in order to extend a ‘Good morning’ with the ‘old man,’ ” a title which was spoken with reverence when applied to him. Many of his employes could come to him and discuss a situation arising from their connection with the business. He made them feel that they had a right to be heard and that the hearing was his first consideration.

Public opinion was not divided concerning the life of Michael Cudahy. His business integrity was recognized by all with whom he had dealings and it was well known that he was loyal to every profession and to every ideal which he advocated. The sixty-nine years of his life were indeed well spent and the world is better for his having lived.







*R. J. Crane*

## Richard Teller Crane



NO MORE potent lesson exists for the young man or even for men of mature minds, than that afforded in the recital of the career of a successful business man, together with the moral and business principles responsible for its attainment. The life and deeds of great men of the remote past inspire within the youth worthy impulses and high aims, but the lessons thus presented are merely theoretical, while the successful battles of modern men, with the same environments, conditions and problems which surround us today are practical examples. One of the most forceful of these examples is afforded in the career of Richard Teller Crane, late president of the Crane Company, whose name is to the iron trade what that of Marshall Field is to the dry-goods trade or those of Swift and Armour to the packing industry. Coming to Chicago fifty-six years ago, without education, business experience, money or friends, he established a business which by his own indomitable energy and force of character has become one of the largest in the world.

Mr. Crane was born at Passaic Falls, Paterson, New Jersey, May 15, 1832, a son of Timothy B. and Maria (Ryerson) Crane. His paternal ancestors are traced to the original Mayflower colony, which settled at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1620. His father, Timothy B. Crane, learned the carpenter's trade in Litchfield, Connecticut, and became a contractor and builder in New York city, where he erected a mansion for Governor Dewitt Clinton, with whom he was intimate. He later removed to Passaic Falls, New Jersey, to engage in the milling business and erected many saw and flour mills in that state.

He first married Miss Teller, a descendant of the original Kniekerbocker colony, from Amsterdam, and later married Miss Maria Ryerson, a sister of the late Martin Ryerson, of Chicago. He died in 1845, and his wife seven years later.

From his father Mr. Crane inherited mechanical aptitude and ingenuity and his mother's one desire was that her boys should all learn trades. The family were too poor to send the children long to school, consequently at the age of eleven he was obliged to seek self-support. He learned various branches of mechanical work, and in 1847, an uncle procured for him a situation in Brooklyn, New York, where he re-

mained until 1851, by which time he had acquired the trade of a brass and iron worker. He then went to New York city, where he found employment with several prominent firms, among them that of R. Hoe & Company. The business depression of 1854-5 threw him out of employment, and after some time spent in futile search for work, he came to Chicago in the latter year. Here he had an uncle, Martin Ryerson, engaged in the lumber business. Shortly after his arrival he decided to start in business for himself, and Mr. Ryerson granting him the privilege and furnishing the means, he erected a small brass shop in a corner of the latter's lumberyard. Here he began the manufacture of finished brass goods, in a small way, and lived in the loft overhead. He had neither capital, business experience nor acquaintance with which to start his enterprise, and but little ability as a salesman, but possessed a fairly good knowledge of brass foundry work and finishing and was a good machinist. And what is more, he was endowed with foresight, ingenuity, energy and determination. He avoided all deception and trickery, soon won the confidence of all with whom he had dealings, and established a reputation for fairness and reliability, which has been his chief pride throughout his entire business career.

A few months after starting, Mr. Crane was joined by his brother Charles S., with whom he formed a partnership under the name of R. T. Crane & Brother. The business grew rapidly from the start, the variety of their products were gradually increased, and from time to time new quarters were secured to accommodate the growing enterprise. Owing to the small demand, it was necessary for some time to take up any article which was found profitable and they were obliged to manufacture an enormous variety of goods in order to build up their business. In 1858 they began the manufacture of steam heating apparatus (which they discontinued in 1877). In 1860 they established an iron factory, and in 1864 a wrought-iron pipe mill, at the corner of Fulton and Desplaines streets. In 1865, they built their present works, and added three new branches to their business—a malleable iron foundry, the manufacture of malleable and cast-iron fittings, and a general machine shop, in which, later, steam engines were made. Their business soon doubled, and a charter was obtained from the legislature, incorporating the concern, under the name of the North-Western Manufacturing Company, with a capital stock of one million dollars, of which only fifteen thousand dollars was issued. R. T. Crane was the first president and Charles S. Crane the first vice president. At this time, the amount of business annually transacted was five hundred thousand dollars, and the number of employes about two hundred. The higher classes of employes were given an interest in

the company's business. In August, 1872, the corporate name was changed to Crane Brothers Manufacturing Company, owing to the adoption by other parties of the word "North-Western" and the consequent danger of confusion. In 1870, more room was required, and a four-story building was erected on Desplaines street, adjoining that on Jefferson street; and during 1871, a four-story wing was added. Charles S. Crane retired from the company at this time, and the business was thereafter conducted by its founder to the time of his death. Previous to this time, the company had commenced building steam freight and passenger elevators, of which but few were then in use in Chicago, none having been, up to that time, constructed in the west. The company's first passenger elevator was placed in a hotel on the corner of Michigan avenue and Congress street. In 1874 the manufacture of hydraulic elevators was undertaken, and has since grown steadily, this branch of the business being conducted under the name of the Crane Elevator Company. It, too, has grown to the proportions of leadership in its line and there is today no civilized country on the face of the globe where the Crane elevator has not been introduced. Shortly after the building of steam elevators had been commenced, an accidental discovery showed that the machine was adapted to the hoisting of material for blast furnaces. The company at once set to work to design an apparatus still better suited for this class of work; the result was a great improvement over anything theretofore built. In 1880, the pipe manufacture had entirely outgrown the capacity of the mill erected in 1864, and a new mill was erected, on the corner of Canal and Judd streets. Eventually, however, it developed that the fitting business was growing so rapidly that it would be a good line in which to specialize, and Mr. Crane decided to give especial attention to that line; then, as their capacity for manufacturing became crowded, he gradually dropped one after another of their various outside lines, including steam warming and elevators, feeling that the rapid growth of the pipe and fitting business would afford an enterprise sufficiently large for himself and family to look after. It then became his aim to place his plant in advance of all others in the country in the variety and quality of goods, and with this end in view he endeavored not only to carry everything that was called for in this line, but to anticipate the wants of the trade; that is to bring out, in advance, articles that he could see would be needed, which his experience in the steam-fitting line had for many years enabled him to do. As a result Mr. Crane had a vast number of inventions to his credit covering a wide and varied range of articles.

From time to time, since 1886, branch offices have been established in other cities throughout the United States where satisfactory ar-

rangements could be made with jobbers, thus insuring a steady, reliable outlet for their products. In doing this, however, Mr. Crane at no time pursued an avaricious course, as he believed in the policy "live and let live," but made it a rule not to establish a branch at a point where he was receiving fair treatment from the trade. Today they have sixteen factories and thirty-eight branches, and employ over nine thousand hands.

While no special effort has been made to create a demand for Crane goods outside the United States and their possessions, for the reason that the capacity of the company has been fully taxed in taking care of domestic demands, nevertheless they are sold in considerable quantities in Canada, Great Britain, Denmark, Mexico, South America, South Africa, Australia, Japan, China and Russia, and in smaller quantities in all countries of the world. The company was awarded the only gold medal given at the Paris Exposition, 1900, for exhibits of valves and fittings.

As the business of the Crane Company grew, Mr. Crane grew. Gradually he acquired a valuable business acquaintance, and a thorough understanding of business methods was added to his thorough mechanical knowledge. His policy from the first was to put his earnings back into the business, and he had sufficient courage to extend the business as rapidly as his means permitted. The panics of 1857 and 1865 both found the company in a greatly expanded condition, and an exceedingly severe struggle was necessary in each case to weather the storm. By 1873 the company had gained such financial strength that the panic of that year, as well as the later panic of 1893, was passed without the business being seriously threatened. Although the company started without resources, and the business has been rapidly extended and many financial difficulties encountered, never, during the fifty years, has the company's paper gone to protest. Very early in his business career, Mr. Crane recognized the value of thorough system, and worked out for himself a system of policies, rules, and regulations, covering every feature of the business. This, in addition to supervising the details of work, not only in the manufacturing departments, but the sales, cost, finances and general office work as well, was a tremendous task, but he finally succeeded and today the firm is one of the most thoroughly systematized and best organized concerns in the world.

One of the greatest factors in his success was the attitude which Mr. Crane always maintained toward his employees. "Justice," he said, "is the first thing to be considered in dealing with your men, and justice, in its broadest sense, includes kindness, courtesy, sympa-

thy and genuine interest in the welfare of your employes." Absolute fairness to the employe as the inspiration of fidelity and service, has been the Crane keynote. Always accessible to the lowest of his force, keeping constantly in touch with them all, in their work and their amusements as well, he established and maintained a feeling of regard and loyalty among his employes such as probably no other man has ever enjoyed from so large a force. At its fiftieth anniversary, a few years ago, the home shops and offices mustered forty-two employes who had been continuously with the concern from twenty-five to forty years.

Mr. Crane always believed in a fair distribution of profits, as a practical remuneration of his employes' loyalty. He investigated numerous profit-sharing systems in use in this and other countries, some of which he gave a trial without satisfactory results. However, twelve years ago he devised and adopted what is undoubtedly the fairest and most liberal practice ever instituted by any large concern. Every year each employe is presented with a cash Christmas gift from the company. From 1899 to 1902 the amount was five per cent of each employe's annual income from the company. Since that time the basis of distribution has been ten per cent. In this way the Crane Company has given its employes in the past twelve years over three million dollars, the 1911 distribution alone amounting to over half a million dollars. Mr. Crane believed in giving his employes golden dollars in return for the golden dollars they harvested for the company, and was bitterly opposed to the so-called profit-sharing practices in vogue with many corporations by which the employer gratifies a selfish ambition under the guise of charity. Prior to the establishment of a pension system by the Crane Company, Mr. Crane personally pensioned employes whom sickness or old age had overtaken without their having been able to lay by enough to support themselves and their families. Some of the axioms that made Mr. Crane a millionaire are: "Money comes to the man who knows. If you want to lead you must first learn. Learn your business thoroughly and you can get to the head today, as well as men could fifty years ago. The only place to learn a business is in the business. To make a success today a man must know a great deal more than in the old days—therefore begin to learn early. The big men in business today were poor boys of yesterday. The big men of tomorrow are to be found among the poor boys of today. There is always room for capable men—big employers can never find enough of them. To be poor is no bar—a poor boy can enter the trades and at twenty-six have acquired the knowledge on which to base a fortune. Lack of college training is no handicap. Get right into the

business and learn from the bottom up. I don't know of any man who has made a success in any other way. To develop a perfect organization a man must have a thorough knowledge of the line he is to manufacture, of the best machinery, processes, factory locations and construction, raw material, men, wages, merchandising, manufacturing costs, improvements, business growth, panics and other trade conditions."

The American business man whose personality dominates every department of his concern, who himself supplies the brains, initiative, will and supervision for the conduct of a large enterprise and who, moreover, refuses to relinquish his business cares even after his industrial nursling has grown into a massive giant—is becoming rare in these days of hired managers and high-salaried experts. Such a man was Mr. Crane. Although he accomplished such thorough organization in his business as would readily dispense with his personal attention and had reached a ripe old age he was yet unwilling to retire from active service and up to the time of his demise was to be found almost daily at his desk the greater part of the year.

The development of this vast enterprise would alone entitle him to recognition as one of the most prominent factors in the life of Chicago, but Mr. Crane also became widely known by reason of his activity in philanthropic, benevolent and humanitarian movements. He always took an active interest in social, economic, political and educational affairs and was prominently identified with many important works. He was a student of and writer upon educational problems. In his articles and pamphlets he placed great emphasis upon the distinction between an educational system adapted to meet the wants of the masses and a system suitable for training a favored few. He laid great stress upon the importance and practical value of manual training in the grade schools and was associated with John W. Doane, Marshall Field, John Crerar, N. K. Fairbanks, E. W. Blatchford and O. W. Potter on the pledge of one thousand dollars for the building of the Chicago Manual Training School. In September, 1892, Mr. Crane equipped a manual training room in one of the Chicago grade schools and employed a special teacher to give instruction in woodwork in the higher grades of several of the schools. In 1900, recognizing the success of his first experiment, he provided the necessary means for making possible manual training in the lower grades. In 1905 he provided twenty-four scholarships, of three hundred dollars each per year, to enable young men to prepare themselves as teachers of manual training and provided funds for opening manual training departments

in five more grade schools. In recognition of his interest in the public school system the Chicago board of education a few years ago named a new school the R. T. Crane Manual Training High School. Many of his practical ideas have been embodied in the conduct of the manual training schools of this city, which found in him a stalwart champion and firm friend. In reply to the question, "Why he favored manual training?" he gave this answer. It is the answer of an intensely practical man and of one earnestly striving to better the elementary schools after many years' study of the problem: "I am strongly of the opinion that at present all the money a city or a community can afford to spend on manual training should be devoted to the carrying of this work in the grammar schools; for while manual training may be of some value to high-school pupils I maintain that it is not from such that we will get our supply of mechanics but that the foundation of the making of mechanics and inventors is in teaching practical mechanics to the boys in the grammar grades; for they, naturally, are the ones who will get into mechanical lines after leaving school. What is needed with us is training in the lower school grades that will tend to have more practical than theoretical knowledge. The country is very well supplied with the latter class of labor. There is a wide field for the all-around mechanic. Industrial supervision constantly invites him. And the boy who goes from the grammar school to the industrial field with a good general knowledge of the elements of practical mechanics, gained through intelligently directed manual training, is the best equipped for advancement to the higher positions. As to the cost of manual training: Should the public be taxed for this feature of public educational work? Why not? If it is proper to furnish free instruction above the grammar grades in art, in music, in a dozen other lines commonly called 'fads' (except in the training of school teachers), surely there can be no question as to the wisdom and justice of free and general instruction in manual training in the grammar grades; for such training must be in the line of public economy as well as highly beneficial to the children; it tends to increase the prosperity of the whole country and to add to the sum of human happiness. What I have said about manual training for boys applies equally to girls. It is just as essential to train girls that they may be good homemakers and homekeepers as it is to train boys that they may support both themselves and their homes. To sum up: Manual training should be a feature of every public grammar school. A generous part of every school day should be devoted to practical instruction in this line. Boys as well as girls should share in it. It should be supported liberally by public taxation. Common sense should be the chief element in its direction. Manual training makes skillful hands

It is the rational cure for truancy. And if it were more liberally given in the public grammar schools the need for truant and reform schools would be very greatly lessened. It gives to the ordinary school studies a new and attractive interest. It has a strong influence on morals. It is the best investment the public can make and will return liberal dividends both in the quality and the quantity of our future citizenship." In a letter urging the importance of manual training in the grades, in another city, he said: "On making inquiry at two of our schools in Chicago I was told that only about twenty per cent of the pupils attending the grammar schools are ever graduated from these schools. It seems to me it is of the greatest importance to discover the cause of this and then see whether there is some remedy for it. I firmly believe that manual training and domestic science will go a very great way towards correcting such conditions and the most important thing in connection with this work is the education and the training given to the girls; I have more faith in this department of the work than in any other feature. I do not know of another question of importance on which so little common sense is exercised as that of education. Admitting, for the sake of argument, that there may be some merit in higher education, I can imagine no greater piece of inconsistency than for the advocates of higher education to absolutely and unanimously neglect the lower education. The fact remains, however, that practically all educators appear to be aiming to do something for society at the top instead of the bottom, with the result that education such as I am advocating is largely neglected, while nearly every other kind is greatly overdone."

With the exception of Potter Palmer Mr. Crane was the largest subscriber to the Chicago Interstate and Industrial Exposition Company, which was organized in March, 1873, to hold expositions on the lake front. These continued for many years, one of the most attractive features in the public life of the city, drawing to Chicago hundreds of visitors annually and proving a decided stimulus to trade. Many other instances might be cited of Mr. Crane's kindly spirit and generous nature. To his financial assistance and intelligently devised plans many great movements and organizations owe their success today.

As a writer Mr. Crane was concise, analytical and forceful. His contributions during the last few years were numerous and cover a wide range of topics. Each issue of the "Valve World," his house publication, contained one or more editorials from his pen, and noteworthy among these are a series of biographies of English and American inventors and a series of articles on education.





*E. S. Winden*

## Edward Roe Virden



EDWARD ROE VIRDEN, well known for many years in Princetown, was respected and honored by all who knew him and most of all by those who knew him best, a fact indicative of an upright, honorable life. His service in the Civil war proved his patriotism and loyalty in citizenship and throughout his business career he never deviated from a course which his judgment dictated as right between himself and his fellowmen. He was born in Norwich, Muskingum county, Ohio, March 23, 1836, his parents being Jerome and Sarah (Fleming) Virden, both natives of Ohio. For an extended period the father engaged in the shoe business in Ohio but afterward became a contractor on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, doing work along the hills near the Ohio river. When his contract was executed he removed with his family to Mount Pleasant, Iowa, traveling across the country by team. There he passed away in 1867, while his wife died while visiting at the home of their son Edward and was laid to rest in Oakland cemetery.

Through the period of his boyhood Edward Roe Virden attended the public schools of Ohio and in 1854, when eighteen years of age, accompanied his parents to Iowa. A year later he came to Princetown to visit his uncle, Benjamin Laird, a druggist, and decided to take up his permanent abode here. He entered business circles of the city as a salesman for A. S. & E. C. Chapman, hardware merchants, with whom he remained for six years, gradually working his way upward until he was given full charge of the business. Throughout his entire commercial career he was regarded as a man thoroughly reliable and worthy of all trust, and enjoyed in unusual measure the confidence and good-will of those with whom he came in contact.

At the outbreak of the Civil war it was well known that Mr. Virden's sympathies were with the Union cause and in 1862 he offered his aid to the government, enlisting for one hundred days' service as a member of Company A, Sixty-ninth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was commissioned a lieutenant and on the completion of his term of enlistment he returned home. In 1864 he again joined the army and raised a company at Princetown which became Company

A of the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Regiment of Illinois Infantry. He was chosen captain and with his command was mustered into service at Peoria in June, 1864. He saw active duty in Missouri and Kentucky, following General Price, who had been making raids into those states. He was also detailed to carry dispatches from Cairo to New Orleans—dispatches which were in cipher from President Lincoln to General Canby. Captain Virden made four or five extremely hazardous trips down the river, for the country was infested with guerrillas who were on the alert to make way with any Yankee whom they might see. His caution and ability, however, enabled him to escape uninjured and he returned to his home after being mustered out at Peoria in November, 1864.

Captain Virden then again engaged in the hardware trade, in which he had embarked on his own account in 1862. He actively and successfully managed this until 1876 and for some time was in partnership with Richardson Brothers under the firm style of Richardson Brothers & Virden. When that association was discontinued he joined Eli Shugart under the firm style of Shugart & Virden but eventually the junior member purchased his partner's interest and remained alone until he sold out in 1876. In 1872 his place was destroyed by fire and his loss amounted to about ten thousand dollars. This would utterly have discouraged a man of less resolute spirit and determination but he bravely undertook the work of resuming business and it was not long before he was again at the head of a large trade. While thus engaged he occupied one of the substantial brick business blocks of the city. Ere withdrawing entirely from the hardware trade Captain Virden in 1875 in company with Captain Clark Grey purchased the controlling interest of the Farmers National Bank, which had been organized a year or two before. He was elected president with Captain Grey as cashier and in the control of the bank established a safe, conservative policy that, however, did not interfere with progress. From the time that he assumed charge of the institution the business of the bank grew and the capital stock was increased from fifty to seventy-five thousand dollars and later to one hundred and ten thousand dollars. At length the bank had the largest capital, surplus and individual deposits of any financial institution in Bureau or adjoining counties. The dividends of the bank had almost paid back the original stock and Captain Virden in 1894 withdrew from the institution, at which time the stock was valued at two hundred thousand dollars, while the deposits amounted to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with surplus and undivided profits of ninety thousand. His attention was given almost wholly to the man-

agement of the bank for eighteen years, although at the same time he loaned money on real estate in Kansas and Nebraska, and from time to time he made investments there until he became the owner of between five and six thousand acres in those states, together with a three hundred acre farm in Bureau county. On severing his connection with the bank he concentrated his energies upon his real-estate interests. He was never a speculator, confining his attention to legitimate channels of commerce and banking. "His business enterprise was marked and his keen sagacity and foresight were widely acknowledged so that he was seldom at error in matters of business judgment, but on the contrary placed his investments judiciously." Thus wrote of him a contemporary biographer. He ever looked to the welfare and improvement of Princeton and did much to further its interests and upbuilding.

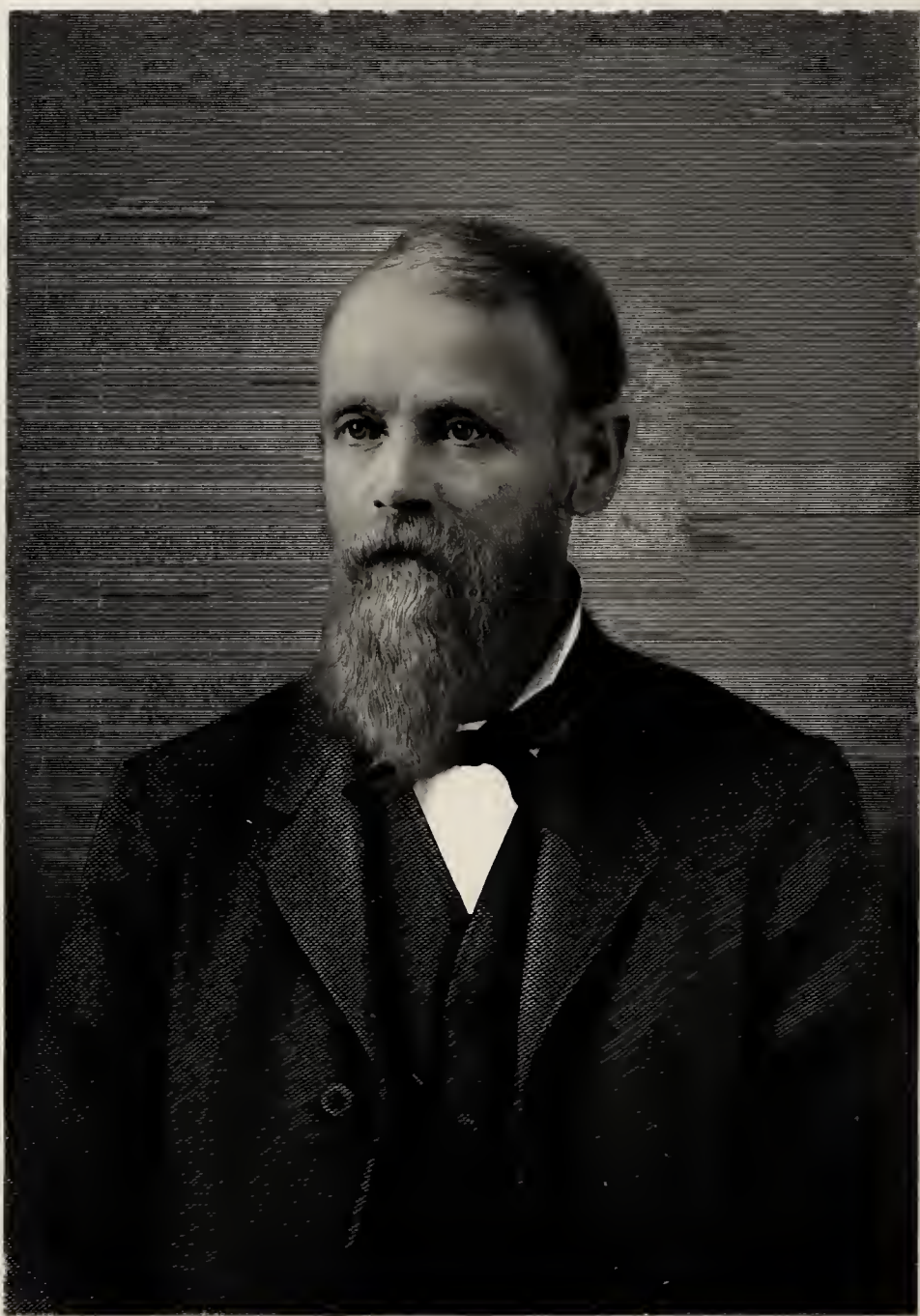
On the 26th of April, 1860, Captain Virden was married to Miss Anna Thompson, of Cambridge, Ohio, with whom he had attended school in their childhood. The youthful attachment was strengthened as the years went by and as soon as he had made preparations for having a home of his own Captain Virden returned to Ohio for his wife. Immediately following their marriage he brought her to the middle west and they afterward made their home in Princeton. Unto Captain and Mrs. Virden were born five children, four daughters and a son, of whom one daughter died in infancy and the son has also passed away. The others are: Nellie R., the wife of Charles Sapp of Princeton; and Martha and Mary, twins, the former the wife of Joseph A. Brigham of Princeton, while Mary is living at home with her mother. All of the children were well educated in the Princeton high school.

Captain Virden received his political training and formed his opinions largely under the teaching of Owen Lovejoy. He lacked a few months of having attained his majority at the time of the presidential election of 1856 and voted for Lincoln in 1860 and thereafter remained a stalwart supporter of the republican party. He was a delegate to nearly every convention of the party including local, state and national meetings, and while he was never a politician in the sense of office seeking he served for several years as supervisor and was a member of the high school board. He exemplified in his life the beneficent spirit of Masonry, joining the fraternity on attaining his majority. He died July 20, 1901. His was indeed a well spent life, given to the promotion not only of individual interests but all matters relating to public progress and improvement. He recognized the needs of the county and labored accordingly. The world is better

for his having lived, for his life was crowned by many tangible results for the benefit of his community. It has been said that his name was a synonym for business industry and enterprise and in the wise use of his opportunities he prospered year by year, conducting all business matters carefully and successfully and in all of his acts displaying an aptitude for successful management. He never permitted the accumulation of wealth to affect in any way his actions toward those less successful. With Captain Virden it was once a friend, always a friend, and he rated people not by birth or by worldly possessions but by character worth. Mrs. Virden still makes her home in Princeton and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. She has every reason to cherish the memory of her husband, for his upright life commanded the respect of all who knew him and his ability carried him far beyond the ranks of the many to stand among the successful few.







JACOB A. HENRY

## Jacob A. Henry

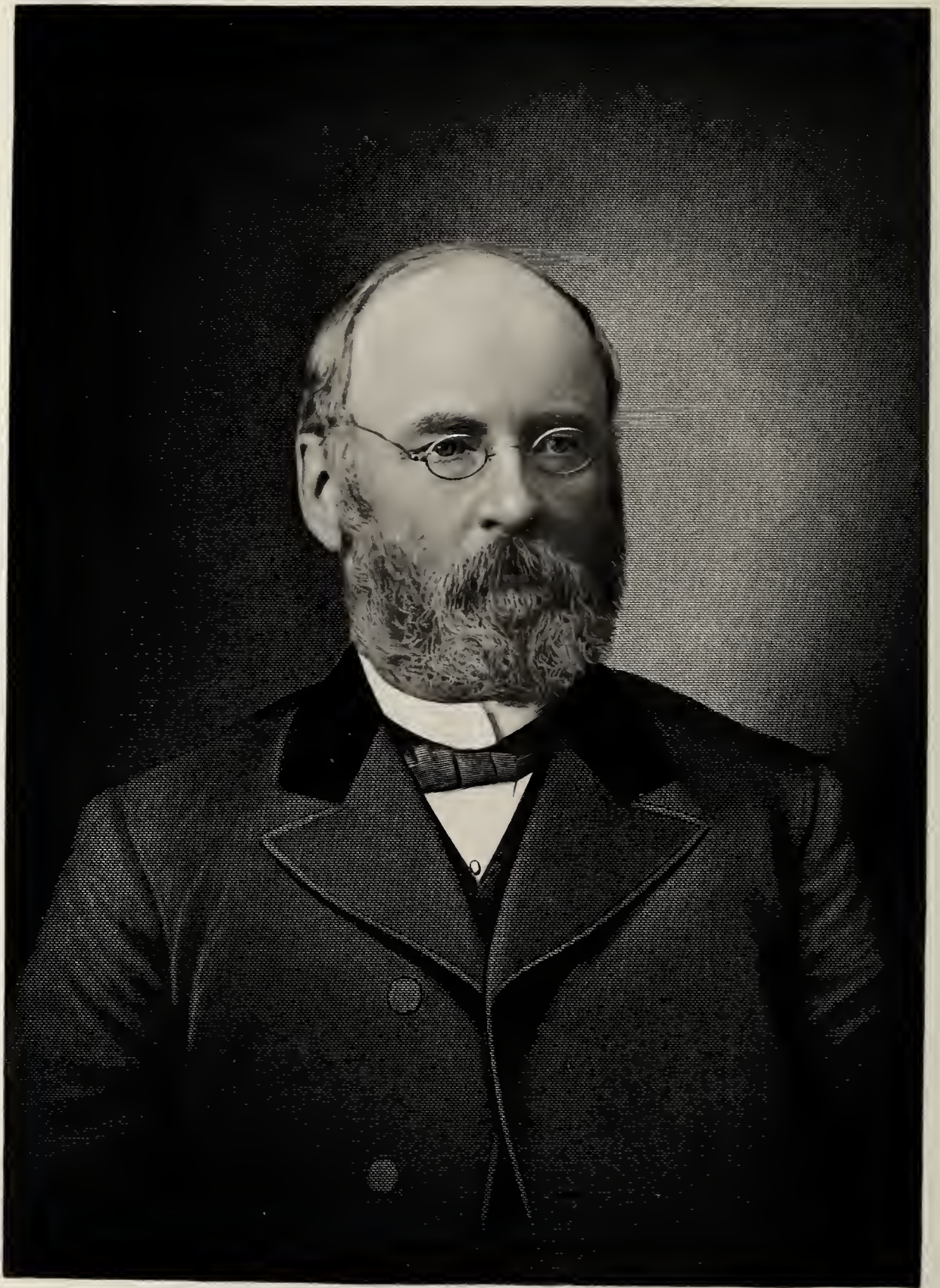


FROM farm boy to bank president is not an unusual record in this country, where labor finds its just reward, and close application and energy constitute the salient features of success; and yet such a record never fails, and rightly so, to elicit attention and commendation. The world admires the victor, and in a successful business career the struggle is continuously waged for supremacy over adverse conditions, and the obstacles which arise through the subversion of plans through outside influences. Without special advantages at the outset of his career, Jacob A. Henry made steady progress with the result that an enviable position in industrial and financial circles was attained, for he became one of the prominent contractors of Illinois and also a leading factor in banking circles as the president of the Will County Bank of Joliet. He began life's journey in Hunterdon county, New Jersey, April 25, 1825, and reached the end of his earthly pilgrimage on the 16th of August, 1908. He became a resident of Joliet in 1858. A farmer's son, he was reared in the usual manner of boys brought up on the farm, where there is a fair division of time between the work of the fields and the attainment of an education. When seventeen years of age, however, he determined to seek employment in other ways and entered the service of the Hartford & New Haven Railroad Company. This was in 1842. He assisted in laying the first track on the canal road through the city of New Haven and thus made his initial step in what was a long and prosperous career in connection with the development and building of railways throughout the country. His constantly broadening experience promoted his efficiency, and laudable ambition and indefatigable energy were elements in his advancement. In 1846 he went to Ohio, where he took his first railroad contract for the building of lines in Ohio and Indiana. Each work that he undertook served to demonstrate his ability to handle important engineering problems and at length he was chosen to superintend the construction of the Sandusky road. After several years of railroad building in Ohio and Indiana he came to Illinois in 1856 and for a number of years occupied the responsible position of roadmaster with the Chicago & Alton sys-

tem. In 1870 he went to Texas, where he filled a contract for the building of the Houston & Great Northern, which was completed in 1873. In the meantime he also constructed a portion of the Southern Pacific line. His gradual advancement brought him to a position among the foremost contractors of the country in the field of railroad construction. He built the Jackson branch line, from Dwight to Lacon, part of the line from Verona on the Peoria line and also the Roadhouse branch. He was the architect and builder of his own fame and fortunes as well, and with the acquirement of success in his original field of labor he found opportunity for cooperation in other lines. He was one of the original promoters and organizers of the Will County Bank of Joliet, which was established in 1871. Mr. Henry held a large portion of its stock and in 1892 consented to accept the presidency of the company, so continuing until his death. He ever took great interest in the development and improvement of Joliet and was a recognized leader in almost every movement that has been a factor in the growth and advancement of the city. He was the first president of the Joliet street cars and he was connected with many other projects which brought to him no financial return but which were of direct benefit in the upbuilding of the city.

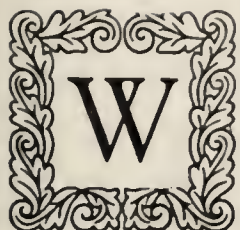
Mr. Henry was married twice. On the 26th of April, 1846, he wedded Nancy Briggs, who died in 1878, leaving a daughter, Helen Josephine, now the wife of J. W. Folk. In October, 1885, Mr. Henry married Mrs. Rachel J. (Hulsizer) Apgar, who survives him and is still living in Joliet. Mr. Henry took up his abode in this city in 1858 and though his business affairs took him at times into various sections of the country, he was ever closely associated with this city and while he did not seek nor desire public office, his attitude toward affairs of general moment was that of a public-spirited citizen whose aid could ever be counted upon. In fact such was his influence that his name in support of any measure secured for it a large following. Men came to recognize the fact that his opinions were unprejudiced, that he seemed to view any question from every possible standpoint, that his conclusions were just and equitable. They therefore received his opinions as those of one who spoke with authority. His business record, too, is most commendable, showing the possibilities for attainment when one has the will to dare and to do, while his life history stands as incontrovertible evidence of the fact that success and an honorable name may be won simultaneously.





*T. Cummins*

## Theron Cumins

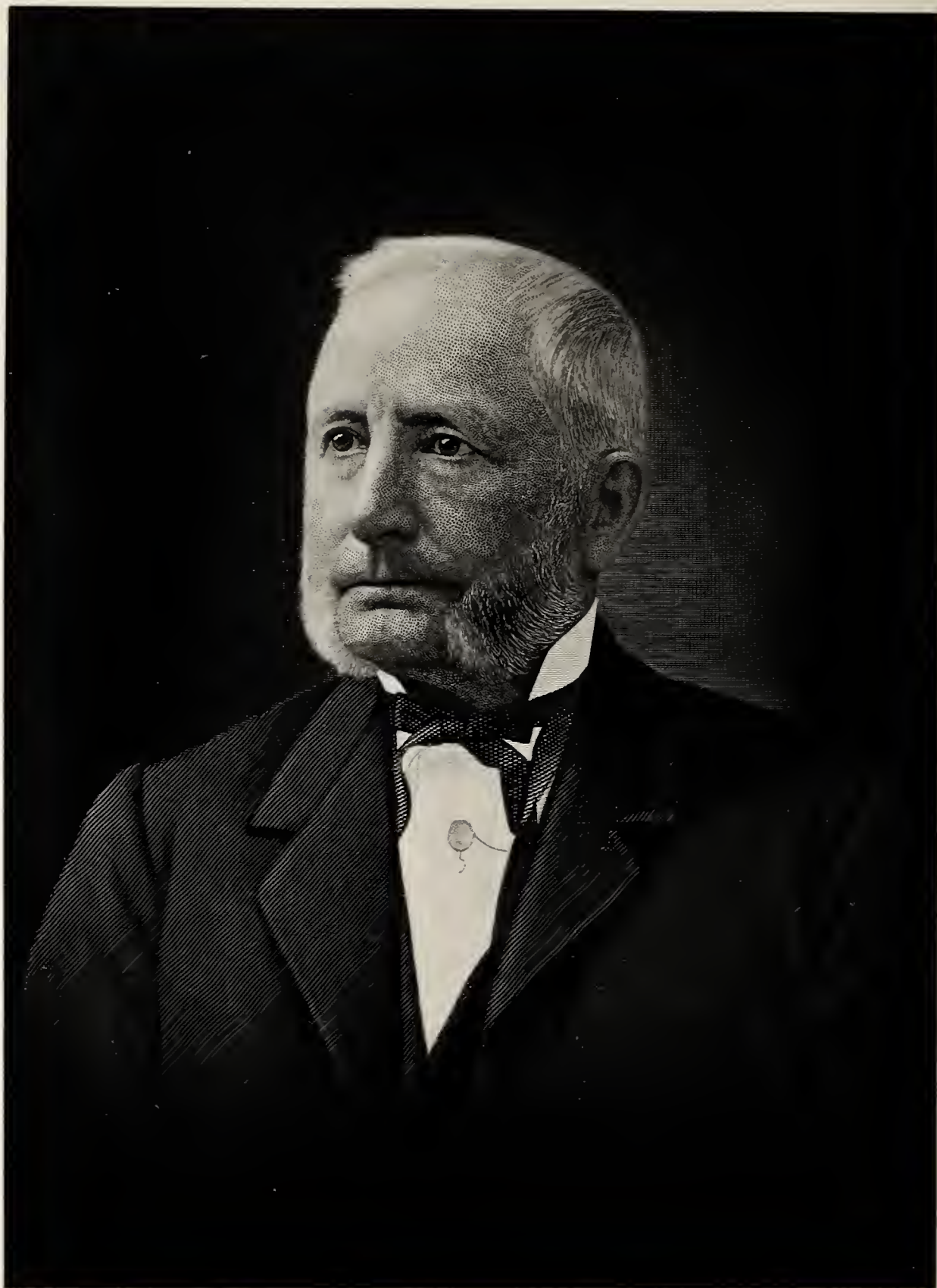


WITH the settlement of Illinois the work of cultivating its broad prairies began and as this was carried forward there came a demand for facilities which would lighten labor and increase the speed with which work was accomplished. Then dawned the era of agricultural implement and machinery manufacture and there sprang up within the borders of the state some of the largest manufacturing plants of the country. Actively associated with that line of business was Theron Cumins, who became the president of the Grand Detour Plow Company, operating for many years at Dixon. He was born at Tunbridge, Vermont, a son of Joseph and Hannah (Converse) Cumins. When a young man he came to Illinois without capital, thinking to find better business opportunities in the new and growing west than in the older and more thickly settled states of the east. It was in 1842 that he took up his abode in Ogle county, Illinois, where he secured a clerkship in a general store, being thus employed for three years. On the expiration of that period he went to Newark, Ohio, where he continued for four years and during two years of that period he was engaged in railroad building as a contractor on the Fort Wayne & Pittsburg Railroad. On again coming to Illinois he settled at Grand Detour and entered into partnership with L. Andrus in the manufacture of plows. Not long afterward Mr. Andrus became ill and Mr. Cumins took over the management of the concern, which he developed into a large manufacturing enterprise. After the death of Mr. Andrus he conducted the business alone until 1869, when Colonel H. F. Noble acquired an interest. In June, 1874, O. B. Dodge entered the firm and a few years later, on account of the growth of the business, it was incorporated under the name of the Grand Detour Plow Company. The plant was removed to Dixon about 1867 or 1868 and from that time on the business enjoyed a continuous growth, making it one of the leading productive industries of that part of the state. On the incorporation Mr. Cumins became president of the company and so continued for many years, directing its policy and controlling its trade relations. He had the ability to combine and co-ordinate seemingly diverse interests into a harmonious

whole and in the management of the business there was practically little or no friction between the company and employes, to whom Mr. Cumins was ever just and considerate. In his trade relations he won a reputation for reliability that was most enviable and it became a recognized fact that his commercial integrity was unassailable. In addition to his manufacturing interests Mr. Cumins invested largely in farm mortgages in the west and also became a director of the Dixon National Bank and a stockholder in other corporations.

Mr. Cumins was twice married. In 1854 he wedded Josephine Harris, of Grand Detour, and following her death he was married on the 19th of February, 1885, to Miss Louise B. Gill. He was a man of rather retiring disposition, never sought office and avoided publicity, yet his life in its various activities was of far-reaching influence and effect and his good deeds won him gratitude, respect and honor. He was most charitable but it was almost impossible to get him to speak of his benevolences. His gifts of charity were made without ostentation and display, following closely the biblical injunction not to let the left hand know what the right hand doeth. The very nature of some of his benefactions, however, brought him before the public, for he endowed the O. B. Dodge public library to the extent of fifteen thousand dollars and the hospital to the sum of five thousand dollars. He also built two sun rooms at the hospital which his wife has since converted into ward rooms, spending a considerable sum of money in making this department of the hospital of the utmost value. His religious belief seemed to be largely in accord with the teachings of the Episcopal church, for, although not a member, he attended its services and was most generous in its support. He died August 2, 1898. He was a man of broad humanitarian principles who recognized the obligations of the individual to his fellowmen and fully met such obligations. He delighted in doing good to others and his kind acts arose from no sense of duty but from a sincere and earnest desire to aid his fellowmen because of his deep and cordial interest in them. The simplicity and beauty of his character endeared him to all. He held friendship inviolable and home ties most sacred and there were exemplified in his life record the highest principles of manhood and citizenship.





*James Clark*

## James Clark



JAMES CLARK was the first postmaster of Utica, which service proved but the initial step in an official career that led him through various local and county positions to that of state legislator. This, however, important as was his official record, constituted but one phase of a life of far-reaching activity and benefit. In business affairs he was prominent and influential and his name is written high on the roll of La Salle county's most prominent, worthy and valued citizens. Of him it has been said: "His life record covered seventy-seven years,—years which were fraught with the arduous labors of the pioneer and with the strenuous effort of the successful business man who forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution."

A native of England, Mr. Clark was born in Ashburnham parish, in Sussex county, on the 9th of September, 1811, his parents being James and Ann (Weston) Clark. The father was a successful liveryman in his native town. There the son was reared and educated and in early life he learned the coachmaker's trade, serving a regular apprenticeship. He was diligent and energetic and soon mastered the different elements of the business, becoming an excellent workman, but his laudable ambition—one of his dominant qualities—was not satisfied with the business opportunities of the old world, and believing that he might have better opportunities in the new, he bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for America. His crossing was accomplished on one of the record-breaking trips of the sailing vessels of those days, and he reached New York, April 16, 1830, after but sixteen days spent on the water. His cash capital at the time consisted of an English shilling and he was forced to seek employment at once. In fact he pawned his overcoat in order to obtain food and shelter until he could secure a position. After a few days he had arranged to work for his board and room and so capable did he prove that after a month his employer agreed to pay him in addition seventy-five cents per day.

Among his fellow passengers when en route to America was a Mrs. Luellum and her two nieces. She had known Mr. Clark at his

old home in England and on again meeting him in New York she persuaded him to accompany her to the west, where she intended to invest her capital of four hundred dollars in land. Mr. Clark agreed to accompany her, advise her in regard to preempting a farm and assist her in its development for a compensation of ten dollars per month. Accordingly he started with Mrs. Luellum and one of her nieces (the other remaining in New York, where she had secured a situation) for Grafton, Lorain county, Ohio, where Mrs. Luellum secured one hundred and sixty acres of government land. Mr. Clark staked out the claim, cut the logs used in building a pioneer cabin, and otherwise instituted the farm work. While the primitive home was being built he slept on a pallet beneath the wagon, while Mrs. Luellum and her niece occupied the "prairie schooner." As equipment for the farm Mrs. Luellum purchased a yoke of oxen, a cow, pig and some primitive farm machinery, and when these arrangements were made Mr. Clark became actively engaged in the improvement of the place. Losses attended them, for an epidemic of scurvy broke out among the stock in the neighborhood. The money was all exhausted, but the resourcefulness which characterized Mr. Clark throughout his entire life, was at this time manifest in meeting the exigencies of the situation. He cut the timber from ten acres of land, converted it into charcoal and selling it, thus secured ready money. Unable to pay Mr. Clark his wages, Mrs. Luellum finally offered to settle with him by transferring to him her right, title and interest in the preemption claim. This he sold for thirty dollars. He then covered the wagon with unbleached cotton and prepared to continue the journey further west. In September, 1830, he wedded Charlotte Sargent, Mrs. Luellum's niece, and with his wife and two children and Mrs. Luellum started for Illinois. While en route he was able to trade his oxen for a good team of horses and thus the party continued on their way to Peoria, where he left his family while he proceeded on horseback to Utica township to secure a claim. At length he obtained government land on section 4, Utica township, La Salle county, and soon was established with his family upon the new farm. He began to till the soil and at the same time conducted a stage line between Peoria and Utica and afterward between Utica and Chicago, for this period long antedated the era of railroad building in Illinois. When the government placed land upon the market he purchased two hundred and forty acres and ever regarding real estate as the safest of all investments he kept adding to his holdings until he was the owner of twenty-four hundred acres of the most productive land in this section of the state. As opportunity offered he

continued his farm work, bringing his fields to a high state of cultivation. In 1837 he took a contract for the building of a part of the Illinois & Michigan canal, which included the extension of the waterway through two miles of solid rock. It was regarded as a piece of very difficult engineering at that time, but in 1848 the work was successfully completed. As the years passed his indefatigable industry had won him success and in 1845 he had replaced his log cabin—his first home in La Salle county—by a substantial and handsome residence, which for years was regarded as one of the finest homes in his section of the state.

As time passed on Mr. Clark extended his efforts to various business fields and thus became a factor in public prosperity as well as a man of individual success. There had been established in Utica an enterprise for the manufacture of cement to be used in the construction of the locks of the canal, the projectors of this undertaking having been George Steel and Hiram Norton, who had come hither from Canada but who had conducted operations upon a very modest scale. Mr. Clark purchased the cement works and in 1845 he began the manufacture of hydraulic cement. The investment proved a profitable one and constituted the nucleus of the large fortune which our subject acquired. The great industry, which he founded so many years ago, has now grown to be one of the most extensive of the sort in the Union. His wisdom and judgment were shown not alone in the establishment of this enterprise but in conducting its affairs consecutively toward the maximum of success, his business and executive ability having been of the most pronounced type. In 1883 Mr. Clark decided that it was expedient to expand the business facilities by the organization of a joint stock company, and this was effected. He became president of the company and N. J. Cary, secretary and treasurer. This business was pushed forward with increased vigor and became, and is, one of the most important industries of the state. Another feature of his intense and intelligently directed activity was his service as agent of the Rock Island Railroad at Utica. He was appointed to the position on the establishment of the station and so continued until his death. No project or movement that looked to the upbuilding of the city failed to receive his indorsement and many times his active support.

In his business activities Mr. Clark gave evidence of the possession of qualities which his fellow townsmen recognized as of worth in public affairs and accordingly he was called to office. Presidential appointment made him the first postmaster of Utica, in which position he continued for fourteen years. He filled the office of member

of the board of county supervisors for eleven years, and during the period of the Civil war was a member of the democratic county central committee. In 1870 he was elected member of the state legislature from La Salle county and was so serving at the time of the great Chicago fire, which caused the governor to call an extra session. The twenty-seventh general assembly, in which he sat, was in session for two hundred and ninety-three days, as the laws were revised during that period. Mr. Clark acted as a member of the committee on canals and on other committees of equal importance, bringing to bear in those connections the same practical business ability and sturdy common sense which have characterized him in private life. He thus became a power in insuring wise legislation and gained the hearty indorsement of his constituents.

Mr. Clark was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife on the 12th of August, 1877. They had become the parents of four children, the two eldest of whom were born in Ohio and the other two in Illinois. John L., born July 8, 1832, is living retired in Ottawa. James, born November 4, 1833, died August 4, 1845. Charlotte, born April 29, 1838, is the widow of John B. Peckham and resides in Danville. Ann W., born December 31, 1841, passed away March 27, 1848. In 1877 Mr. Clark wedded Mrs. Mary J. Cary, who was born in Jefferson county, New York, December 25, 1833. Her father was a clergyman of the church of the Latter Day Saints and removed with his family to Illinois. It was in Batavia, that state, that his daughter Mary became the wife of Charles A. Cary, November 28, 1850. They had two children, Norman J. and Charles A. Mary J. Clark was a remarkably gifted woman. A poet of marked ability, she was also the author of prose works of high standard of excellence. She possessed a brilliant intellectuality and a charming personality, being a woman of great spirituality and one who had made deep researches into the great truths of life. Such a woman could not but be an able and devoted helpmate for even the most exalted of mankind, and the affection existing between Mr. and Mrs. Clark was a deep and abiding one. Mrs. Clark was an excellent business woman, as well as a brilliant writer, and during her husband's life she was his confidential adviser and helper in all his complicated business affairs, and he held her judgment and opinions in the highest estimation. After his death she ably carried on the business of the Utica Cement Works and also worthily used the large fortune left her by her devoted husband. She retained her abode in the beautiful Clark homestead, which is picturesquely located upon the bluff overlooking the town of Utica. The home is a most attractive one and is a landmark for the surrounding

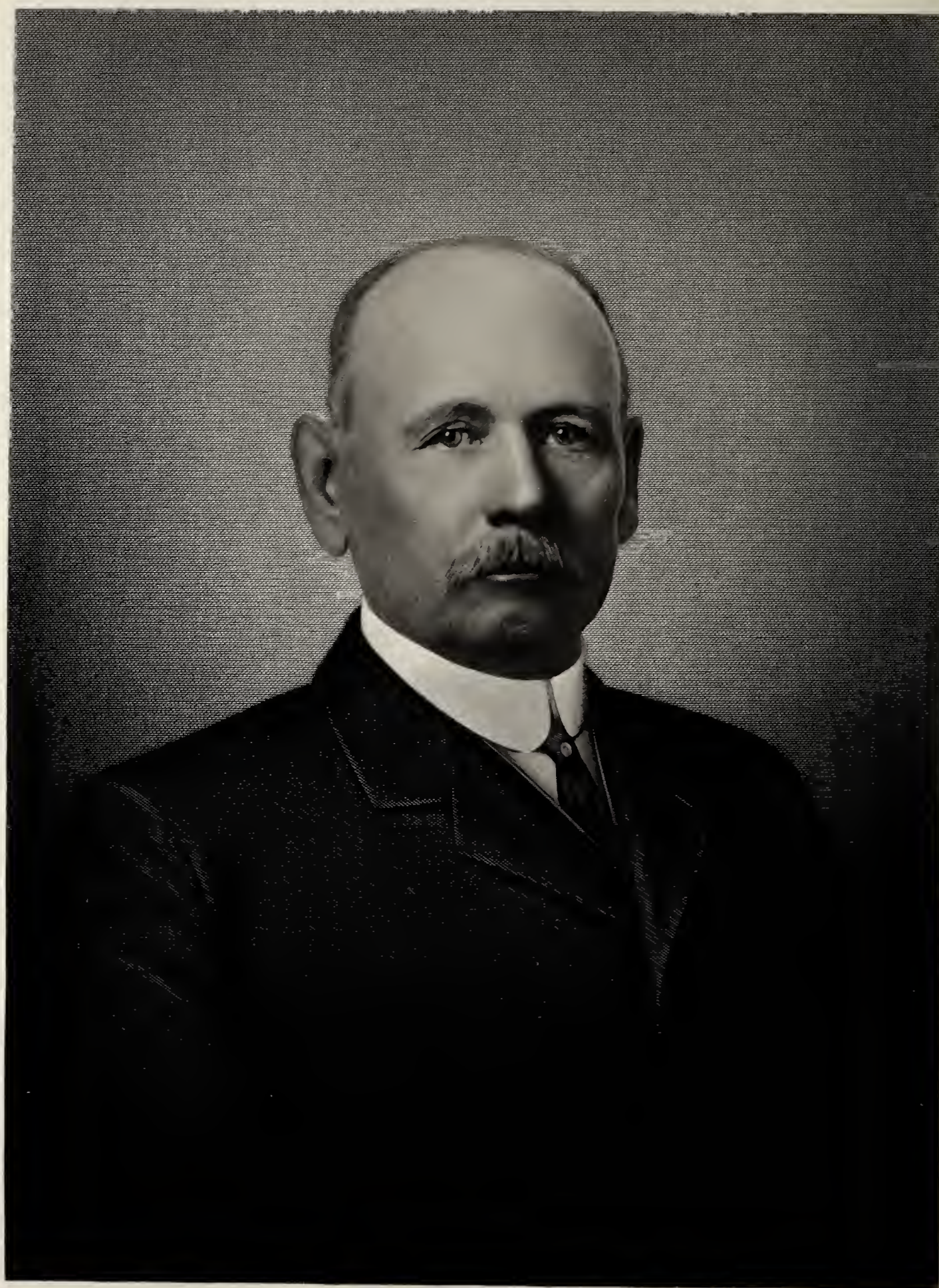
country. Mrs. Clark enjoyed the respect and admiration of the people of Utica and worthily bore the honors of an honored name until her death, which occurred October 3, 1906. Mr. Clark belonged to the Masonic fraternity and exemplified in his life its beneficent principles. He was called to the Home Beyond July 2, 1888, and a life of activity, usefulness and honor was thus ended. Another biographer has said of him:

“His pathway was ever upward, both in a spiritual and a temporal sense. As this review shows, he was distinctively a self-made man—one of nature’s noblemen whom no force of circumstances could prostrate or draw into obscurity. His friends were many and on the list were numbered many of the representative men of the state, and his demise was the cause of widespread regret, while a community mourned the loss of one of its truest and best citizens.”









JAMES T. HARA

## James T. Harahan



THE magnitude and complexity of interests handled by James T. Harahan indicated him to be a most masterful man, resourceful, alert and determined. He worked his way continuously upward in railway circles until he stood at the head of one of the most important systems of the entire country, and then, when he had placed this upon a carefully systematized basis, he turned its management over to others and retired to private life. Throughout the long years of his business activity he was associated with railway interests and it seems appalling that the man who used every effort to safeguard the interests and lives of railroad patrons as well as to successfully manage the financial interests of the roads with which he was connected should at length meet his death in a railroad disaster. He was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, in 1841, and subsequent to the period devoted to the acquirement of an education he joined the Union army as a member of the First Massachusetts Infantry. He took part in all of the desperate fighting in the vicinity of Richmond and was afterward transferred to the Fourth New York Light Artillery, serving with that organization until he entered the employ of the government in the railroad transportation of troops and equipment around Alexandria. He was employed by the Orange & Alexandria Company at that place for about two years and through the succeeding two years was in the service of the Nashville & Decatur Railroad at Nashville, Tennessee. In 1866 he became connected with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, spending four years in that connection with headquarters in the different towns along the route. In 1870 he took charge of the Shelby Railroad and from 1872 until 1879 was road master of the Nashville & Decatur Railroad. This was followed by two years' service as superintendent of the Memphis & New Orleans division of that road. In 1883 he was made general superintendent of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad south of Decatur, so continuing for about two years, when he was made general manager of the entire line. From January until April, 1885, he was general superintendent of the Pittsburg division of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, but resigned that position to become assistant general

manager of the Louisville & Nashville, and was promoted to the position of general manager in October, 1885. He thus continued until 1888 and from that time until November, 1890, he was successively assistant general manager of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, general manager of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway and general manager of the Louisville, New Orleans & Texas Railway. On the 1st of November, 1890, he assumed his duties as second vice president of the Illinois Central Railway Company and was elected to the presidency in 1906. He then continued at the head of one of the most important railway systems of the country until his retirement, and as such became recognized as one of the masters of railroad management and development in the world. The steps in his orderly progression are easily discernible. He continually moved forward, his activities constantly increasing, his outlook continually broadening. He held within his grasp every phase of railway management and found ready solution for the most intricate problems of railway control. He never faltered in what he undertook, for his plans were based on good judgment and a thorough understanding of the conditions and the opportunities of the situation. At length he had reached an age and a financial position where he deemed it fitting to retire and he therefore put aside the more active cares of railway management, having in the meantime won a place among the prosperous residents of the new world.

Mr. Harahan was twice married. He first wedded Miss Mary Kehoe, of Maysville, Kentucky, who died in 1897, and on the 19th of April, 1899, he wedded Miss Mary N. Mallory, a daughter of Captain W. B. Mallory, one of his old-time friends of Memphis, Tennessee. His family numbered two sons and two daughters: William J., general manager of the Illinois Central Railroad Company; J. T., who is associated with a Chicago manufacturing company; Mrs. A. N. Dale, of Memphis, Tennessee; and Mrs. Mary Shirley, of Chicago.

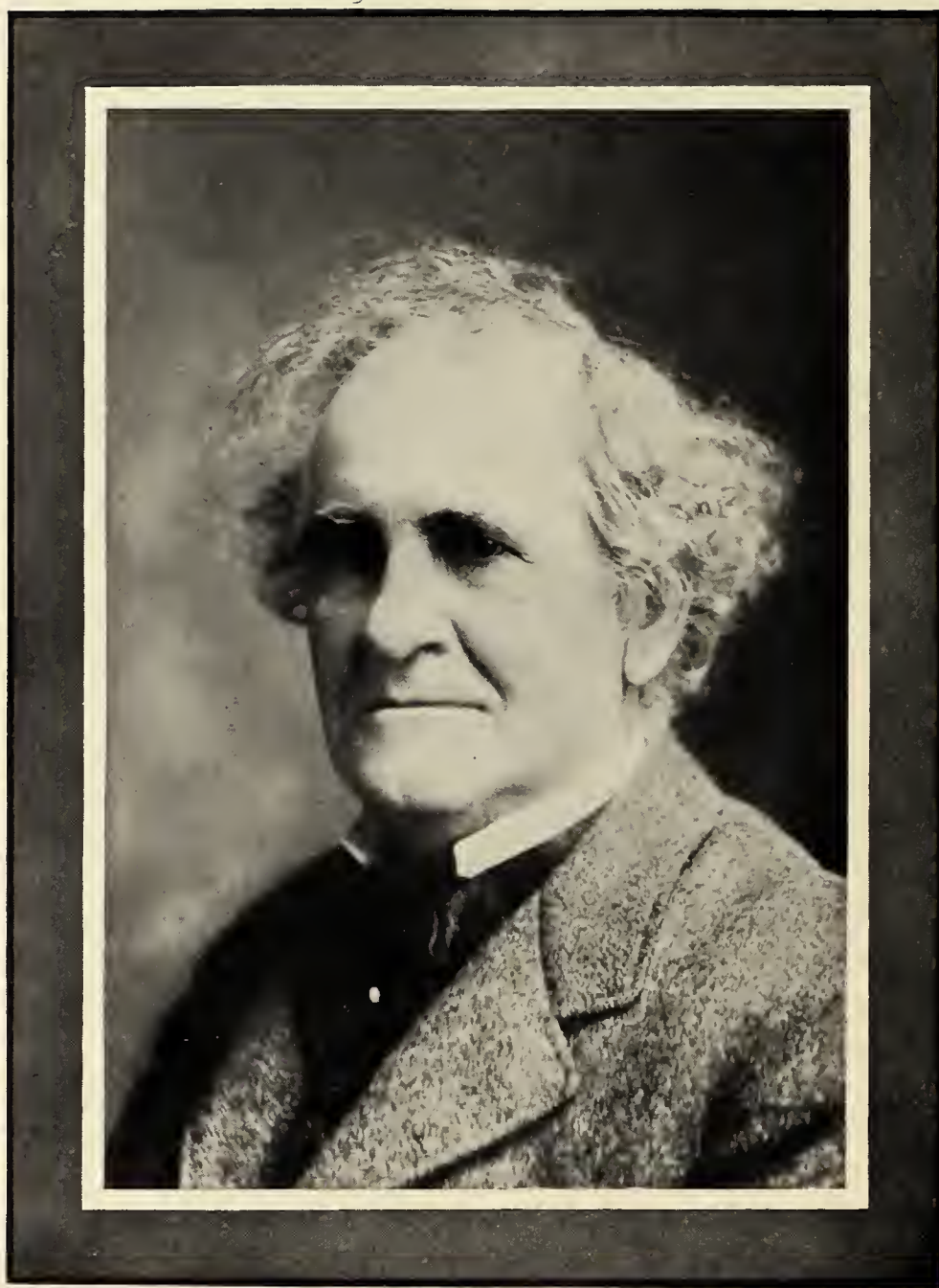
Mr. Harahan was a valued member of various clubs and social organizations of Chicago and the southwest. He was connected with the Homewood Country Club, of Chicago; the East End, Gentlemen's Driving and Noonday Clubs, of St. Louis; the Pendennis Club, of Louisville, Kentucky; the Tennessee Club, of Memphis; and the Boston and Pickwick Clubs, of New Orleans. Deepest regret was felt in the membership of these organizations when the news came that on the 22d of January, 1912, Mr. Harahan had lost his life in a railroad disaster caused by the collision of two trains. He had attractive social qualities, combining a charming, gracious manner with

decision of character, and his splendid record gained for him the admiration and high regard of all. The qualities which he displayed in his business career were of a most vital character, keeping him in touch with the world's progress and finding tangible expression in one of the most important features of the world's work.

Perhaps the greatest results of his life's labors were manifest in the south. In fact his work in that section of the country was one of his greatest achievements, unequalled perhaps by the efforts of any other individual. It was indeed a most wonderful task that Mr. Harahan accomplished in the south for while he was engaged in promoting railroad interests there he recognized the conditions of the country and through a love of humanity entered upon a work, the effects of which are immeasurable. It has frequently been said that he was responsible for the great development and prosperity now found on the other side of the Mason and Dixon line. It was his work with and among the southern people that put the south once more on her feet, enabling her to recover from the devastation and ravages of the war. In the building of railroads he made possible the great industrial awakening and development of that section of the country and where poverty had previously existed, where plantations had been laid waste, slaves freed and property destroyed there sprung up manufacturing and industrial interests, working a revolution in the method of life. His labors checked the tide of adversity and as it rolled back there followed in its wake a prosperity which has kept on growing and growing to the present day. Mr. Harahan came into close touch with the people, studied their needs and their opportunities, spoke a word of encouragement here, gave material assistance there and all along the line stimulated progress, improvement and ambition. Although a northern man and a Union soldier at the time of the Civil war, he recognized no south and no north after hostilities had ceased but only one country with one flag and one purpose. It was one of his greatest desires to unite the two sections and when death called him the people of the south, including the great Confederate body, requested that his remains be taken south and buried, to rest forever among them. This last great tribute shows that his work was not without success. Indeed there is no name spoken with more love, respect and veneration among southern peoples than that of James T. Harahan.







BENJAMIN F. SHAW

## Benjamin F. Shaw



THE record of Benjamin F. Shaw, of Dixon, honors the name of journalism. He entered upon newspaper publication at a period when the purpose of journalism had its educational feature in addition to the dissemination of general and local news and had not been tinged with that commercial spirit which seeks through sensationalism to stimulate the curiosity of the public without regard to wrong impressions which, like tares, grow up and choke out the good seed. He never deviated from the high principles which he set up or lowered his standards because he considered it expedient or profitable to do so. At the time of his death he was perhaps the Nestor of the Illinois journalists, having for many years been editor and proprietor of Dixon's oldest newspaper. He was born in Waverly, New York, March 31, 1831, and passed away September 18, 1909. His ancestry was traced back to William Bradford, who kept the log of the Mayflower and later became the first governor of Plymouth Colony. His grandmother on the paternal side was the last surviving of those who suffered from the Wyoming massacre of 1778, her father and two brothers having been killed in the battle which preceded the massacre. His mother's father, Major Zethon Flower, was a soldier of the Revolution and one of the last survivors on the pension roll of that war, dying at the advanced age of ninety-six. His parents, Alanson B. and Philomela (Flower) Shaw, were natives of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and died when their son Benjamin was a young lad. His brother, Alonzo Shaw, removed westward to Tipton, Iowa, and in 1841 returned to the east for his father's family, then living at Towanda, Pennsylvania, so that Benjamin F. Shaw spent a portion of his youth upon the frontier region, where the work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun. He was not yet fourteen years of age when he began carrying the mail in a section of country adjoining Tipton—a section which was then a wilderness infested with Indians and robbers. The following year—1845—he went to Rock Island, where he began learning the printer's trade, which he followed continuously for about fourteen years. Within that time, or in 1851, he removed to Dixon. The first

paper published in that city was the Dixon Telegraph and Lee County Herald, established on the 1st of May, 1851. Mr. Shaw secured employment in the office and on the 21st of January, 1852, when he had just passed his twenty-first birthday, he became manager of the paper. On the 30th of April, 1854, he purchased the Telegraph and at a later period purchased the Transcript, consolidating the two papers under the former name. Various changes occurred in newspaper ownership in Dixon, but through a long period Mr. Shaw remained owner and editor of the Telegraph. In 1859, however, attracted by the discovery of gold at Pike's Peak, he went to Colorado. He did not meet with the success he anticipated in the mines there and returned to Illinois. He remained for but four months in Colorado and while there had to resort to his trade and set type on the Rocky Mountain News. In April, 1860, he purchased the Amboy (Ill.) Times, of which he remained editor until January 6, 1870. In 1871 Mr. Shaw again became sole proprietor of the Telegraph and remained at its head until his death. In November, 1883, he extended the scope of his business by the establishment of a daily which he called the Evening Telegraph and which has proved one of the most successful papers of the state outside of Chicago. In 1868 he was Washington correspondent for the Chicago Evening Journal, but through the greater part of his life his energies were concentrated on the publication of the Telegraph in his weekly and daily editions, and as the years passed on its circulation and its advertising patronage increased. Improvements were added to the plant in keeping with modern newspaper publication and the office was splendidly equipped with all the accessories necessary to issuing a high-class paper; presenting the most attractive forms of the printers' art.

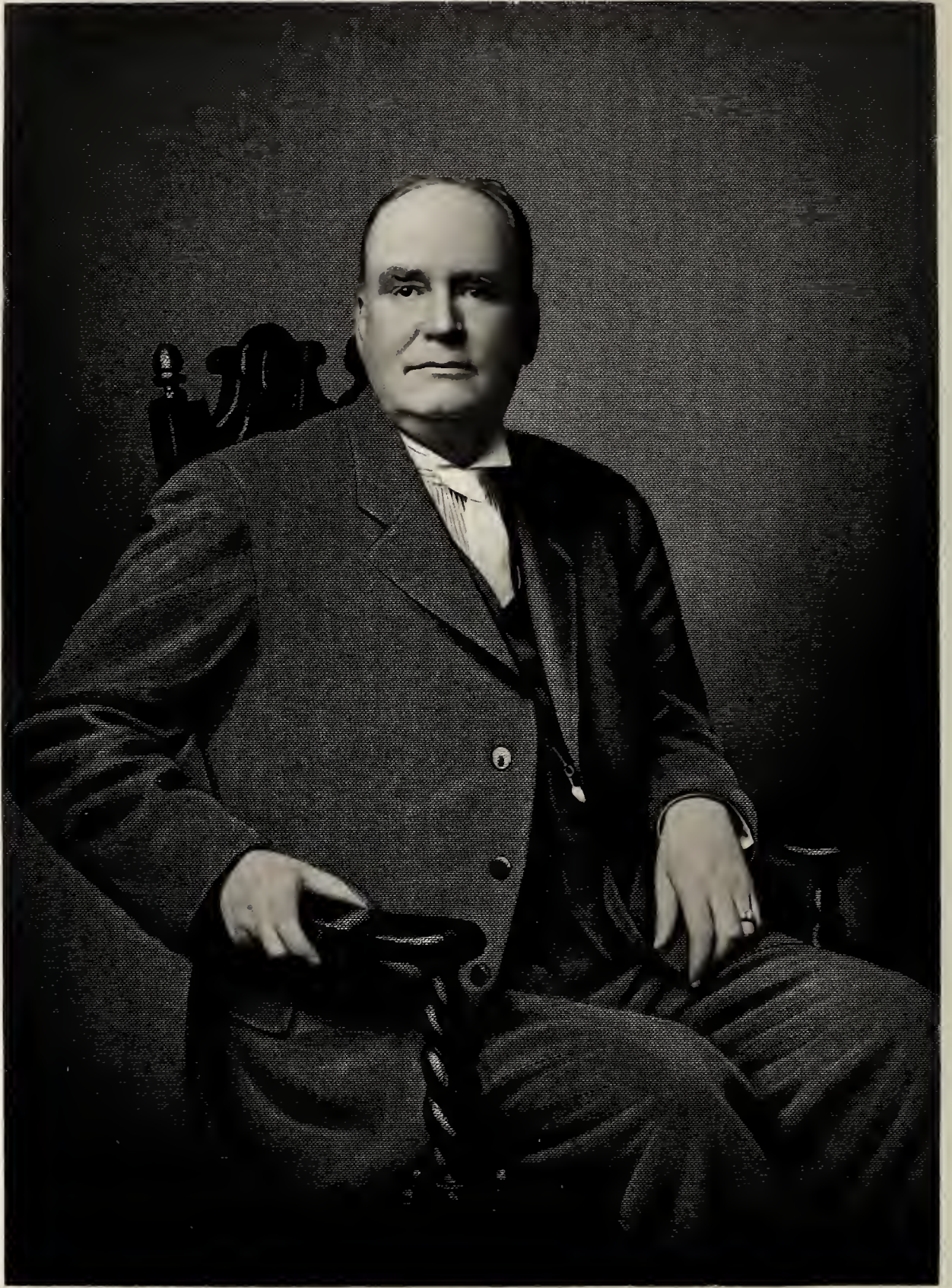
Throughout all the years Mr. Shaw was an ardent supporter of the republican party and took just pride in the fact that he had been one of its organizers. In February, 1856, he was an active participant in the meeting, held in Decatur, of Illinois editors who were opposed to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. The political questions and issues of the day were earnestly discussed and the editors' meeting resulted in calling a convention to meet in Bloomington in June of the same year. It was at the latter meeting that the republican party had its real organization and nominated the first state ticket. On that occasion Mr. Shaw was in consultation with Abraham Lincoln as a member of the committee on resolutions. In his capacity of journalist he was brought into contact with many of the distinguished men of that and later periods and had personal acquaintance with the prominent political statesmen and leaders of Illinois. Few men not

active in politics and seeking the rewards of office have had more intimate, accurate and comprehensive knowledge of the political situation and the questions of the day. Mr. Shaw held some local offices but he regarded journalism as his profession and his real life work. In 1859 he was elected clerk of the circuit court and was reelected to that position, his term expiring in 1868. The following year he was connected with the internal revenue department and was appointed by the government to locate the asylum for the insane at Elgin. In 1876 he was appointed state canal commissioner and served for six years as one of the three commissioners who had charge of the Illinois and Michigan canal and the Rock River improvement work. He acted as secretary of the first meeting held in the interests of the Hennepin canal. In 1891, without his solicitation, he was appointed postmaster of Dixon and served for the full term of four years. In 1899 he was again called to that office and by reappointment served until his death, filling the position altogether for twenty-two years. He was interested in all matters of public progress and improvement, and from the time of its organization until his death was vice president of the O. B. Dodge public library. Progressive public measures which he deemed practicable always received not only his personal indorsement but the support of his paper, and it was well known that the Dixon Telegraph was at all times the champion of advancement and improvement. He stood as a high type of public-spirited citizenship, and never weighed a question of civic or personal honor in the scale of policy.

Mr. Shaw was united in marriage to Miss Annie E. Eustace, a sister of Judge John V. Eustace and a daughter of the Rev. Thomas Eustace, a Presbyterian clergyman, who was a native of Dublin, Ireland, and who married Fannie Olmstead. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw had three sons: Fred, of Denver, Colorado; Eustace, deceased, who for some years was his father's associate in business; and Dr. Lloyd L. Shaw. Mrs. Shaw passed away February 6, 1905, and four and one half years later Benjamin F. Shaw departed this life. He was a member of the Elks Lodge and of the Dixon Club. There was, perhaps, in Dixon no man more widely known and none who had labored more loyally for the interests of the city and state.







*V. H. Stark*

## Verne Hiram Stark



AS MANAGER of the Illinois Printing Company, Verne Hiram Stark occupied a prominent position in the business circles of Danville, but it was his social nature, more than all else, that established him in the high regard of his fellow townsmen. So strongly was he entrenched in the good-will and friendship of those who knew him that it would be difficult to find a resident of the city who could claim more true friends. No one was in his company for even a few moments without feeling better therefor, so greatly did he shed around him the sunshine of life.

Danville claimed Mr. Stark as a citizen for forty years and during three decades he was connected with the Illinois Printing Company. He was one of the native sons of this state, his birth having occurred in Marshall in 1861. His father, James W. Stark, removed from that city to Danville about 1871 and there resided for a number of years. During that period he was recognized as an authority on Odd Fellowship, having more than a local reputation among the lodges. At length he removed with his family to Kansas.

Verne H. Stark, then a youth in his teens, decided to remain in Danville and found employment as clerk in the store connected with the business of the Illinois Printing Company. His educational opportunities had been those afforded by the public schools but in the school of experience he learned many valuable lessons and came to be known as one of the well informed men of the city, keeping in close touch through reading and observation with the world's work along many lines. Nature endowed him with the quality of sociability and his deep and sincere interest in his fellows led to the formation of extensive friendships. His personal following proved a valuable asset in his business and supplied the first stepping stone to the promotions that rapidly came until finally he had reached the position of manager of the extensive business of the Illinois Printing Company. He had worked his way upward from a humble place, carrying with it but a small salary, through all the intermediate positions until he was in control of the business, bending his efforts to administrative direction and executive guidance. At the time he became connected

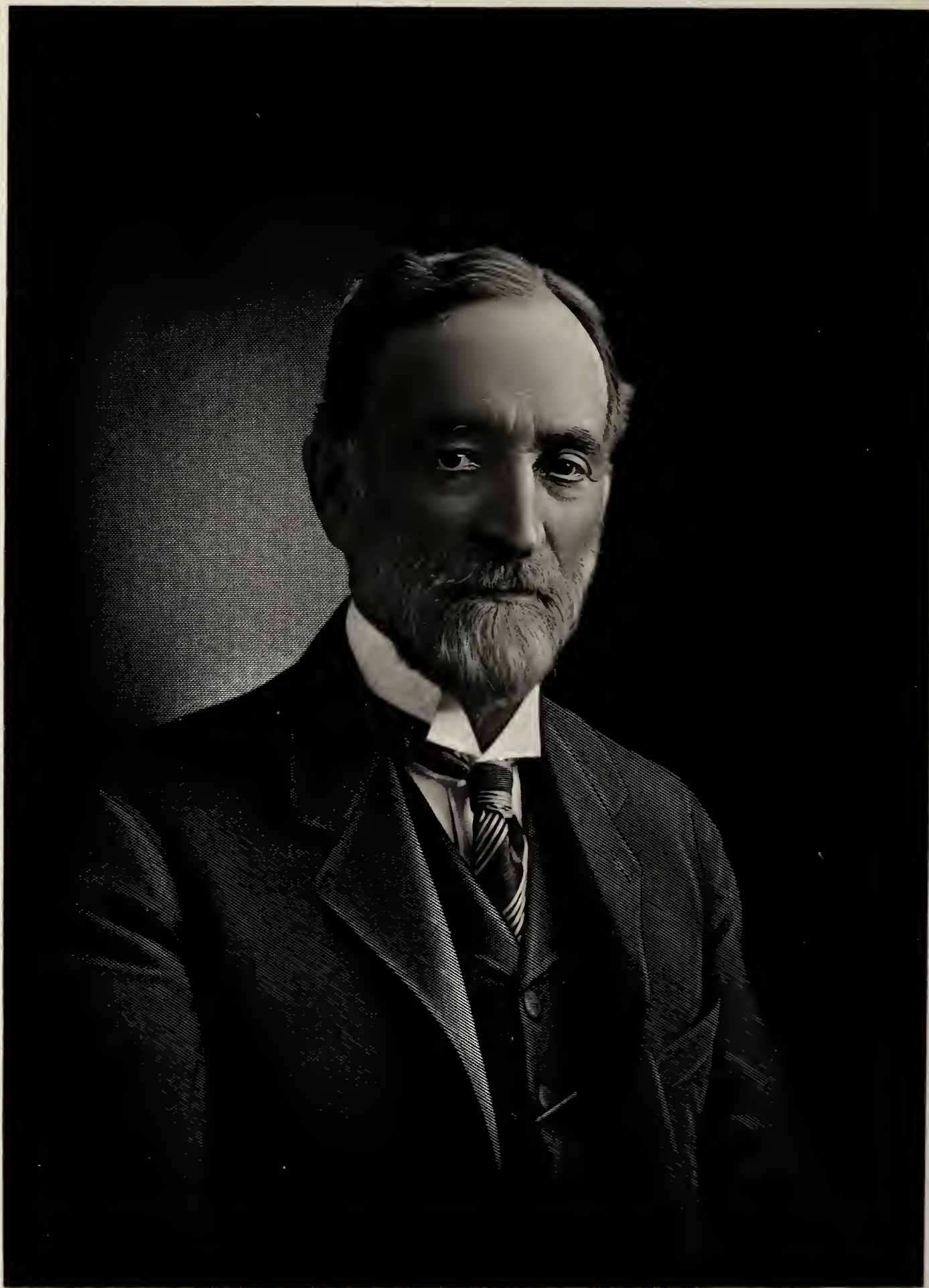
with the company George W. Flynn, W. R. Jewell and Mr. Woodmansee were at its head and were also owners of the Daily and Weekly News. Mr. Stark early displayed the qualities of close application, unfaltering industry and ready adaptability. He made it his purpose to faithfully execute every task entrusted to his care and thus proved his worth for larger responsibilities. The company, believing that he would prove valuable as a commercial traveler, sent him out on the road and again he was a success, obtaining for the house some large and important contracts in other cities as well as in Danville. He seemed to have no difficulty in having a contract renewed, for he never misrepresented a fact in business and his straightforward dealing and understanding of every phase of the business enabled him to so present the matter to prospective customers as to win their patronage. When other representatives of the company failed or there seemed to be unnecessary delay in securing a contract, Mr. Stark was the man selected to meet the emergency and was always found equal to the occasion. The Commercial News, writing of this, said: "Mr. Stark is asserted to have had a variety of methods of obtaining contracts, but nothing could beat the health-giving laugh and the sincere handshake that invariably formed a part of the preliminaries to business. As a mixer it is conceded that Verne Stark had few equals and no superiors in Danville. There was nothing artificial about his manner; he was simply bubbling over with good nature and kindness toward everybody. Truly it may be said of Verne Stark that he was a 'lover of his fellowman,' who carried sunshine and good cheer wherever he went." About 1890, when Mr. Jewell withdrew from the firm to devote all his time to editing and publishing the Daily and Weekly News, his interest in the Illinois Printing Company was taken over by Miss Mary Jones and Mr. Stark, and when the company was reorganized Mr. Stark was made manager, thus being given voice in its management and the shaping of its policy. In 1897 occurred the marriage of Verne Stark and Miss Minnie Wilcox, of Danville, who survives him. They occupied an attractive home at No. 1122 North Vermilion street, one of the most beautiful of the city. Mr. Stark had reached a position where it seemed that he had everything to live for—a charming wife, an elegant home, a legion of warm friends and financial assets adequate for all the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. Death called him, however, on the 27th of November, 1911, when he was yet in the prime of life, being but fifty years of age. Every one who knew him was glad to call him friend. He had a circle of acquaintances that extended widely over his section of the state and wherever he was known he was held in the high-

est regard. He was welcomed even when the object of his call was business, for he radiated contentment and happiness. He always had a cheery word, a pleasant smile, an interesting and oftentimes humorous tale, and yet there was in him a depth of character that goes beyond mere sociability. He knew life, its opportunities, its possibilities, its difficulties and its sorrows. He never believed, however, in giving way to the two latter and he always utilized the two former. He believed that every individual should make the best possible use of his time and talents and he gave no heed to the little minor perplexities which are after all so inessential. He got the most out of life, and, while he did not preach, he lived his gospel of good cheer and his example was an inspiration to others.









*Mr. F. M. Laughlin*

## W. F. McLaughlin



ONE of early Chicago's successful men of affairs, of whom she has good cause to be proud, was W. F. McLaughlin, founder and owner of the widely known coffee firm of W. F. McLaughlin & Company.

Mr. McLaughlin, the second son of Peter and Anna McLaughlin, was born, October 4, 1827, at the family home, Clonnybacon House, Queens county, Ireland. He was educated at home and at the local school, and later entered Carlow College. By the time that his education there had been completed he had decided that, with his ambitious spirit, he could never be content with the easy-going Irish country life, so he determined to come to America. Accordingly in 1850, at the age of twenty-three, he arrived in this country and came immediately to Chicago. Here, he soon secured his first, and only, situation, in the retail grocery store of J. M. Arnold. He remained there long enough to learn something of American customs and business methods, and then started in business for himself at the corner of State and Madison streets.

In 1854 Mr. McLaughlin married Miss Mary Delanty of Chicago, and to this, the most important and fortunate act of his life, may be attributed a large proportion of his subsequent success. Eight years later his health failed and he was told that he had not much longer to live. That indomitable courage which during his entire life was one of his most prominent traits would not allow him to accept any such doom and he went immediately to Europe to consult physicians there in whom he had more faith. His confidence was justified and after a few months of treatment abroad he returned to America, spent a year in travel and investigation, and then again entered business life by founding the wholesale coffee house of W. F. McLaughlin & Company, to which he was to devote the rest of his long, successful and honorable life. He died on the 1st day of February, 1905, at the age of seventy-seven years, leaving his widow and four daughters: Mary, Anna, a religious of the Order of the Sacred Heart; Mrs. Martin D. Hardin and Mrs. Charles A. Mair; and three sons: George D., Robert and Frederic.

Mr. McLaughlin's career was unusual. A small beginning at Eldridge court and State street, with little capital and less trade, with few acquaintances and no assistance, grew, by his efforts alone, to be the second largest firm of its kind in the world, with mills and warehouses in Chicago, and branches in the principal coffee-growing countries; and during all that growth, throughout all its struggles, its credit was ever the highest, and its owners word and record ever spotless.

The great pride with which his family prize his record is not based on his financial success alone, but on the highly honorable manner in which this success was achieved. His mighty courage and will, his high-minded conception of a man's duty in his domestic as in his business life, and his quiet and unswerving allegiance to his principles at whatever cost, were, what so specially distinguished him. As an example—Mr. McLaughlin, though not a prohibitionist, was strongly opposed to the use of alcoholic drinks, and yet during the lean years when a little more or less money was of vital importance, he let property which he owned lie idle and profitless rather than lease it to be used in the liquor trade. He was a man desiring peace but those who forced him into business fights can testify that once started he never sued for peace, nor gave to an opponent any cause for rejoicing. He had the intelligence to accurately measure his rights and the ability to maintain them. There were many times during his career when failure loomed very near but no one ever saw in him the slightest sign of perturbation. When the Chicago fire wiped out more than half his capital no one in the ruined city went more quietly and cheerfully to work to build up again his injured fortune, and few succeeded better.

The business which Mr. McLaughlin founded some fifty years ago is still occupying its leading position in the coffee industry, and is, under the management of his sons George and Frederic, being conducted according to the policies instituted by its founder.





*Reustlicher*

## Judge Robert W. Hilscher



THE year 1879 witnessed the arrival of Judge Robert W. Hilscher in Watseka and from that time until his death he remained a resident of the city, contributing to its progress along many lines while at the same time he followed his profession, and whether practicing law before, or presiding over the courts as judge, his record was an honor to the profession. His advancement in his chosen calling was the direct result of well developed abilities, high purpose and conscientiousness in the discharge of his duties. In early manhood he determined to make the practice of law his life work and throughout the years of his connection therewith was devoted to the highest standard of professional ethics.

A native of Pennsylvania, Robert W. Hilscher was born in Lyeoming county on the 8th of March, 1853, his parents being Joseph and Louisa Hilscher. The family is of German lineage although representatives have resided in America through several generations. The father followed the blacksmith's trade in the east until 1855, when he became a resident of Indiana, where he remained for two years. He then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits in the vicinity of Lincoln, Illinois, and there upon the home farm Judge Hilscher spent the days of his boyhood and youth, dividing his time between the work of the field and the acquirement of an education in the public schools. The love of learning prompted him to embrace every opportunity for the acquirement of knowledge and when eighteen years of age he entered a college at Adrian, Michigan, from which he was graduated with the class of 1875. Immediately afterward he became a student in the law school at Albany, New York, and following his graduation there was admitted to the bar in 1876. The same year he located for practice in Hoopeston, Illinois, where he remained until 1879, when he came to Watseka.

No dreary novitiate awaited Judge Hilscher in his professional career. While advancement at the bar is proverbially slow he soon gave proof of his ability to cope with intricate problems of the law and was accorded a liberal and growing patronage. From the beginning of his connection with the Iroquois county bar he rapidly rose to prominence and in 1880 the republican party made him its candidate

for state's attorney, to which office he was elected for a four years' term. His excellent service during that period led to his reelection in 1884 and the legal interests of his county were most carefully safeguarded during the eight years of his incumbency in that office. For one term he filled the position of master in chancery and at the same time was enjoying a growing private practice which gave him continuously stronger hold upon the confidence of the people. His reputation at the bar was such that in 1897 he was made his party's nominee for the office of circuit judge and was elected to the bench for a term of six years. He carefully considered every question which came up for judgment and his rulings were fair and impartial, being based upon the law and equity of the case. It is said that his decisions were models of judicial soundness and won for him the indorsement of the bar as well as the general public. It naturally followed that he was a candidate for reelection in 1903 and no better testimonial of his previous able service could be given than the fact that in the election of that year he had no opposition. He possessed in the highest degree the judicial temperament. His knowledge of the fundamental principles of law was profound and he was thoroughly grounded in the practice and procedure of the courts. His industry and conscientious devotion to the duties of his high position were proverbial and he became recognized as one of Illinois' ablest jurists.

Judge Hilscher was not only well versed in the law but possessed a statesman's grasp of affairs as relating to the welfare of the community and the nation. He held to the highest ideals of citizenship and was unfaltering in his advocacy of republican principles because of his belief in their efficacy as factors in good government. As a public speaker he stood very high. His appearance on the rostrum was dignified and impressive; his manner was deliberate and generally argumentative but his speeches always commanded attention and his language often rose to periods of impassioned eloquence. All listened to him with attention and his utterances carried conviction to the minds of his hearers.

Judge Hilscher while honored and esteemed in public connections enjoyed the sincere love and friendship of all those with whom he came in contact through social relations. All of the beauty of the ideal home life was manifest in his connection with his family. He was married on the 8th of October, 1879, to Miss Clara McGill, and they became the parents of two children, Elma and Ralph. Judge Hilscher's interests centered in his home and when professional services did not demand his attention he found his happiness in the companionship of his wife and children. He was most kindly in spirit, a

trait of character recognized by all with whom he was associated. His life was very unselfish, his motives honorable and his devotion to the general good was manifest in many tangible ways relating to the material, intellectual and moral progress of his adopted city. The death of Judge Hilscher occurred June 25, 1905, while he was still upon the circuit court bench. The Watseka Republican, commenting upon his passing, said: "A strong man has fallen. In the death of Robert W. Hilscher Iroquois county has lost her foremost citizen, one who has for many years stood as a splendid type of all that was best and highest in the lives of her people. He was the embodiment of vigorous, upright, sterling manhood. His personality combined the dignity of conscious power with the simplicity of a pure and untainted life. He was warm-hearted, courageous and loyal. His character was true as steel, steadfast as granite. His mind was clear, logical and vigorous. He was incapable of falsehood or double dealing and he possessed that instinctive honesty and straightforwardness that turned to truth as the needle to the pole. His conscientiousness was inherent. Honesty and justice and right dealing were the natural result of the habitual bent of his mind. He loved his fellowmen with broadmindedness and charity for human frailty, sorrowing deeply over misfortune and suffering. Few men have ever enjoyed more completely the confidence and respect of their fellow citizens—none have ever more richly deserved such confidence nor more sacredly respected it. His passing away in the prime of manhood and at the zenith of his powers is felt as a personal loss by thousands in this and other counties."

Judge Hilscher had been well known in Masonic circles, holding membership in Watseka Lodge, No. 446, F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter, No. 114, R. A. M.; and Mary Commandery, No. 67, K. T. The Methodist church found in him a faithful and loyal representative. Throughout the years of his residence in Watseka he was identified with the local organization and that he was honored in the congregation is indicated by the fact that he was made a delegate to the national conference of the church at Los Angeles in 1904. This honor came unsolicited, for he was not even present at the session of the board when chosen. Nature endowed Judge Hilscher with certain desirable qualities which he carefully cultivated and thus became a strong man, strong in his honor and his good name, strong in his ability to plan and perform and strong in his support of all those forces which make for justice, refinement and truth. His official record was spotless and the public recognized that at all times he stood as a high type of American manhood and Christian citizenship.







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Very truly Yours  
J. M. Shaw

## Judge Thomas M. Shaw



MAN who seemed unconscious of his own great worth, Judge Thomas M. Shaw, nevertheless, exerted a widely felt influence in professional and commercial circles and upon municipal affairs, his well balanced life touching the lives of others for good, and its splendid record stimulating to higher and nobler deeds those with whom he came in contact. Dignity, courtesy and an understanding appreciation of others were among his strong characteristics, while the innate strength of his purpose and his ability were constantly manifest in his success at the bar and his influence in molding public thought and action. He had back of him an ancestry honorable and distinguished and was fortunate in that his lines of life were cast in harmony therewith. Frequently he expressed himself to the effect that "The man who cares nothing for the deeds of his ancestors never does anything worth while remembering," and he always had the greatest respect for and interest in his ancestors. One of his grandmothers was a cousin of George Washington. His father, George H. Shaw, who in his boyhood attended the same school as James Buchanan, afterward president of the United States, the two constituting one-third of the number of pupils in the little school, became in early manhood a Kentucky planter, but after liberating his slaves removed to Illinois in 1829. He had previously married Miss Penelope R. Edwards and with his young wife he started northward, traveling day after day until they reached a point eight miles from the Illinois river, in what is now Roberts township, Marshall county, but was then part of Putnam county. The tract which George H. Shaw secured comprised both prairie land and timber and a point of grand old forest trees, mostly oaks, extending into the prairie tract, gave the name Shaw's Point to that district. There was also a stream of water running through the land and natural advantages were thus conducive to the development of an excellent farm there. Fearing not the task necessary to the development of the place, George H. Shaw at once began to hew the logs from which he builded the cabin that became the birthplace of his son Thomas. At a later date the Shaw family manufactured upon the farm the bricks that were used in the

construction of a commodious two story dwelling that is standing today. With the early life of the community Mrs. George Shaw was identified for eleven years and then passed away in 1840, when her son Thomas was a little lad of four summers. The father long survived, having reached the age of eighty years when death came to him on the 2d of February, 1877.

The primitive log cabin which the father erected immediately after his arrival in Illinois was the birthplace of Thomas M. Shaw on the 20th of August, 1836. His life history in his youth was not unlike that of most boys reared on the frontier. His educational opportunities were few but his duties were many, as he assisted in cultivating the fields, cutting down the timber and fighting prairie fires. All manual labor assigned him was promptly performed, and well, but he turned eagerly from these tasks to his books, using every possible moment to acquaint himself with branches of learning which he regarded as essential to an adequate preparation for the later duties of life. He was especially interested in mathematics and history, and notwithstanding that the time which he could give to his books was exceedingly limited, he had made such progress by 1853 that he was qualified to enter Judson College at Mount Palatine, Putnam county, Illinois. That school was then the leading educational institution of the central part of the state and when he entered it Judge Shaw was a youth of sixteen. The school passed out of existence the following year and Judge Shaw then resumed his studies in the Mount Morris Academy. He entered upon preparation for the bar in 1855, when he became a law student in the office and under the direction of his cousin, William D. Edwards. His characteristic love of learning enabled him to master Blackstone, Kent and other commentaries almost as readily as he had done history and mathematics, and in later years, when he had earned an assured position as a lawyer and a judge, those who had the privilege of studying in his office and afterward following his professional career and private life, instinctively testified to his broad understanding and impartial interpretation of the law as well as to his superior culture, his unquestioned integrity, and his firmness and his courage, which were coupled with a tenderness as great as that of any woman.

With his admission to the bar when twenty years of age, Judge Shaw entered upon an active practice in Hennepin, where he remained for five years. In 1873 he was licensed to practice before the United States supreme court. Following the outbreak of the Civil war he offered his services to the government, enlisting at Hennepin, where he was chosen captain of a company but was afterward rejected on



*Mrs S M Shaw*



account of the loss of an eye which resulted from an accident sustained in his boyhood. It was a matter of deep regret to Judge Shaw that he could not aid his country in the field, but his loyalty was ever manifest in his staunch support of the government and the administration at home. Although solicited to become a partner in the law firm of Judge Weed, in Peoria, he declined to do this, preferring to locate in his old home town of Lacon, which he did in 1862. He there joined Judge Mark Bangs in organizing the law firm of Bangs & Shaw, the partnership being maintained for seventeen years. No other firm of central Illinois occupied a more commanding position because of the breadth of their knowledge, their ability to accurately apply legal principles and their uniform adherence to the highest standard of professional ethics. When Mr. Bangs was appointed to the office of United States district attorney, with headquarters in Chicago, the partnership was dissolved, but in the meantime R. B. Edwards, a cousin of Judge Shaw, had been admitted to the firm and following the retirement of Judge Bangs in 1880 the firm name of Shaw & Edwards was assumed. In the active practice of law Judge Shaw gave proof of his familiarity with principles and precedent and ever proved himself to be most careful and painstaking in his preparation of cases, so that his presentation was strong, forceful, logical and convincing. His ability naturally recommended him for judicial honors and in 1885 he was elected one of the three circuit judges of the tenth judicial district. This was not the first political preferment that had come to him and yet he was in no sense a politician. While perhaps not without laudable ambition, which is an incentive to faithful and able public service, he regarded the pursuits of private life as in themselves abundantly worthy of his best efforts, and while he stood staunch in his support of principles in which he believed, he did not care to hold office. However, his fellow townsmen in Lacon twice called him to the mayor's chair and also made him a member of the school board. The democratic party made him a congressional nominee and in 1880 he was elected to represent in the state senate the district comprising Marshall, Woodford and Putnam counties. Through the two ensuing sessions of the legislature he had ably represented the interests of his constituents and the public at large and in the thirty-third general assembly received the unanimous support of democratic senators for the position of president pro tem. It was after his retirement from the legislative body that judicial honors were conferred upon him, and on the expiration of his first term of six years Judge Shaw was reelected in 1891, and was chosen for the third time in 1897, an honor that few, if any, in his district have ever

shared. Moreover, it is well known that the district is strongly republican, yet he was elected each time by an increased majority—a fact indicative of his wide personal popularity and of his marked capability and fidelity upon the bench. His friends frequently urged him to become a candidate for the supreme court and others desired that he should be made the democratic nominee for governor. His decisions on the bench were models of judicial soundness, representing a masterful grasp of every problem presented for solution. He was serving for the sixteenth year as circuit judge when death called him.

It was on the 24th of December, 1863, that Judge Shaw was united in marriage to Miss Nellie F. Hirsch, of Metamora, Woodford county, Illinois, one of the reigning belles of the locality. Her birth occurred in New Hampshire, her parents being Frederick F. and Caroline (Starrett) Hirsch. Her father was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, and her mother in New Hampshire, and both passed away in Metamora, Illinois, the father on the 22d of April, 1901, at the age of eighty-five years, and the mother on October 8, 1866. Mrs. Shaw's father passed away only six days after the death of her husband. It was indeed a dark hour in her life history when two so near and dear to her were called within such a short space of time. While residing in his native state Mr. Hirsch became an expert glass-blower, and prospering in his business there became the owner of a beautiful residence and grounds at Suncook, New Hampshire. In the later '50s, however, he disposed of his property there and came to Illinois, settling at Metamora, Woodford county, where he conducted business as a mason, contractor and builder. He was at one time mayor of Metamora and filled other local positions, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. Unto Mr. Hirsch and his wife were born five children, of whom the eldest, Frederick Francis, died in New Hampshire. Caroline Sophia, the second, became the wife of Casner Irving, a real-estate dealer of Metamora. Marietta Augusta married William J. Cassell of Denver, Colorado, and became recognized as one of the leading society ladies of that city, but passed away there on the 4th of January, 1913. Mrs. Shaw is the next in order of birth. Clara Lutie, the youngest, is the widow of James A. Myers and now makes her home in St. Louis, Missouri, but was formerly a resident of Metamora. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Shaw was an officer in the British army. He was related to Mary, Queen of Scots, his family name being Stuart; but while in England he fell in love with a lady of the English nobility, and as their marriage was opposed on account of his Scotch connections they eloped to America and were married in New England.

Then to hide his identity he changed his name from Stuart to Starrett. Judge and Mrs. Shaw never had any children of their own, but reared an adopted daughter, Daisy, and upon her they lavished the care and affection which would have been given to children of their own. This daughter developed a musical talent of high order which has been carefully trained. Mr. Shaw, himself a lover of music, sang in a deep mellow voice and he delighted in the musical talent of the daughter. She became the wife of J. P. Stout, now deceased, and since her husband's death she spends much time in travel. Judge Shaw not only loved music but also nature and art, and in the course of his extensive travels he visited many of the noted galleries. When he went abroad he was usually accompanied by his wife or his daughter and sometimes by both, and the measure of his enjoyment was never complete unless he could share it with others. He was most devoted to his family and in their companionship found his greatest happiness. Fraternally he was connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He was also a member of the State Bar Association and his colleagues and contemporaries in the practice of law bore tribute to his high worth as a man and as a lawyer. Judge S. S. Page, also on the circuit court bench, wrote: "We all feel that we have lost one of the best and most lovable men we have ever known. The bench and bar alike will mourn his loss. I never knew a man who seemed to possess more of a sweet and womanly disposition." Judge Leslie Puterbaugh, of Peoria, in writing to Mrs. Shaw said: "No one can more fully than I appreciate your irreparable loss. While I had known Judge Shaw since my boyhood and had always respected and admired him as a lawyer and jurist, my close official and personal relations of recent years had led me to know and love him almost as a father. I feel that I have lost one of my best friends and shall long miss his generous companionship and wise council." At the funeral service ex-Vice President Adlai E. Stevenson in a public speech referred to Judge Shaw as his lifelong friend and spoke of him not only as an able lawyer and upright judge but also characterized him as a man so true in every relation of life that he had fairly earned the immortality spoken of by the poet:

"To live in hearts we leave behind,  
Is not to die."

The Peoria Bar Association paid a high tribute to his memory in the following resolutions:

"Whereas, Thomas M. Shaw, one of the judges of the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Illinois, has been suddenly called away in the midst of his usefulness, the members of the bar practicing before him in Peoria and adjoining counties, desire to place on record their appreciation of him as a judge and a man.

"Faithful in all his duties, widely and profoundly learned in the law, he brought large abilities to the work of the jurist. Kindly, patient and serene, his great endeavor was to mete out justice through the rules of law. He had not only the respect and admiration of the bar, but the love of its members also. 'Justice tempered by mercy,' was his motto.

"In social intercourse he was modest and unobtrusive, but always approachable and pleasant. He weighed social, moral, and religious questions with the same calm, judicial spirit that he brought to legal ones. As a friend he was reliable; always the same. When he approached any question, principles rather than persons guided him.

"Thus he won the confidence of the people. For the sixteen years they kept him on the bench he grew in that confidence. They felt their rights were safe in his hands.

"To his afflicted family we tender our heartfelt sympathy, knowing that the beautiful picture of his life will abide with them so long as memory shall endure.

"To the people of this judicial district his departure is a great loss, but the effect and memory of his service on the bench endure as a great gain. A model judge, an upright citizen, a lovable man has gone from us. We ask that this imperfect memorial of him be placed on the records of Peoria county."

Says Rev. Theodore Clifton, western field secretary of the Congregational Educational Society: "I knew Judge Shaw long and well, only to love and honor him. The news of his death was a great surprise to me, and came with a distinct sense of personal loss. When I first met the judge, nearly thirty years ago, he was a young lawyer in Lacon, Marshall county. From that day to the day of his death he grew upon me, not only as a lawyer, but as a man, a citizen and a personal friend. Judge Shaw possessed a fine legal mind and his career as a lawyer and a judge was an honor to the state as well as to himself. Illinois did not confer honor upon him so much as he conferred honor upon Illinois. A quiet, unassuming man, he did not realize his own great worth or his own great influence. He was a man of few words, but whether before a jury, on the bench or in the social circle, his words were always listened to and carried weight. It

was the weight of a noble manhood, a mature and accurate judgment, and an unsullied life."

J. Casner Irving, a brother-in-law of Judge Shaw, draws the following reminiscent picture of his many-sided personality: "Judge Shaw was wedded to his profession, and once said to me: 'I would rather feel that I was qualified to fill the position of judge of the supreme court of Illinois than be president of the United States.' He loved nature and lived as near to it as his environment would permit. He was a plain, unobtrusive man, meeting pomp and pride and show, but never seeking it. He loved art for art's sake, and said: 'It is nature's first cousin, and music, is its soul.' Gentle and kind; always regarding the rights of others; knightly and respectful to women wherever he met them; loving his home and those within it, it was a joy to him to return to it when his day's work was done. He lived for others, and especially those he loved. Firm as a rock when convinced he was right, conscientious to an excessive degree, he worked harder to do justice and right than any man I ever knew. I was very close to him in some of his campaigns for office, and knew much of what he did and wanted done. Once during his second judicial campaign Luther Dearborn, of Chicago, came to me and said: 'Now, young man, I met a party of lawyers in Peoria last night and the three democratic candidates for judges were there, and I was told you had the practical management of their campaign in hand and at heart. Do your best, but be sure that Shaw is elected.' I saw Judge Shaw a few days afterward and told him of the incident. He said: 'Cass, do your best; but do not push me past the other boys, for I would rather be defeated than to have them think I had not sailed fair with them.' He lived for others, and in the years to come—in that mysterious, sweet unknown, when mists and clouds and darkness and doubts have been dispelled, I only hope to meet my friend, Judge Shaw."

It is not difficult to speak of a man like Judge Shaw, for his life and character were as clear as the sunlight. No man came in contact with him but speedily appreciated him at his true worth and knew he was a man who cherished not only a high ideal of duty but who lived up to it. He constantly labored for the right and from his earliest youth devoted a large portion of his time to the service of others. His friends will miss him, but the memory of his sweet and beautiful life, of his sincerity and simplicity will not be forgotten.

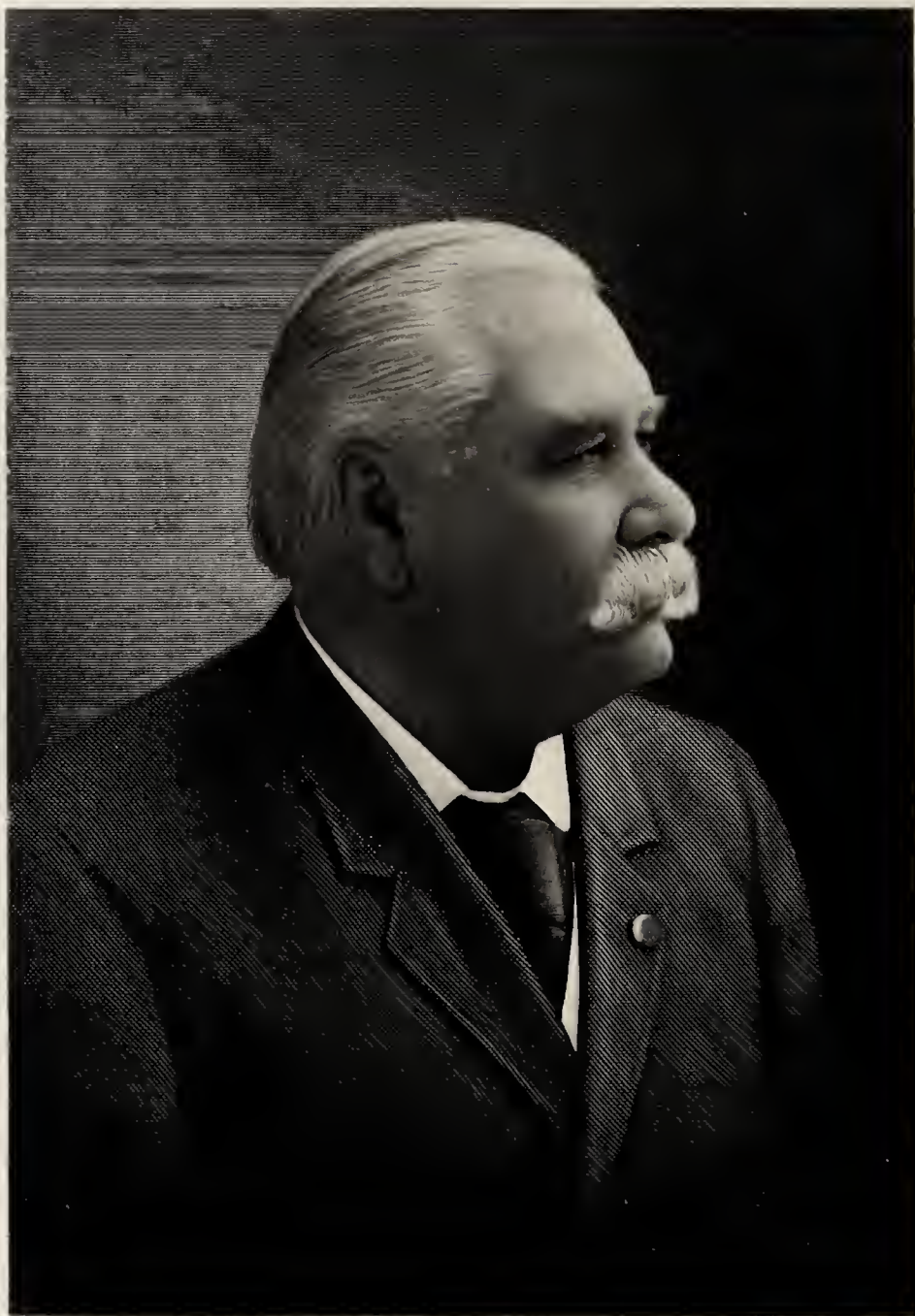
"Sleep sweetly, tender heart, in peace

. . . . .

And the great ages onward roll."







*D. F. Higgins.*

## Daniel Franklin Higgins



THE HISTORY of the legal profession of Illinois would be complete and satisfactory were there failure to make prominent reference to Daniel Franklin Higgins, who for a long period was a distinguished member of the Joliet bar. His contemporaries and colleagues in practice entertained for him the highest regard because of the ability which he displayed and also by reason of his close conformity to the highest standard of professional ethics. He fully recognized the importance of the profession to which life and liberty as well as property rights must look for protection, and his fidelity to the interests of his clients was therefore unfaltering. Mr. Higgins was a lifelong resident of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Du Page township, Will county, May 2, 1849. His parents were Chauncey and Emily (Root) Higgins. The ancestry is traced back in the paternal line to the early colonial epoch in American history and at the time when the colonies attempted to throw off the yoke of British oppression representatives of the name aided in achieving American independence. The great-grandfather was Samuel Higgins, and the grandfather Daniel Higgins. The latter married Hannah Le Baron, a daughter of David Le Baron, a soldier of the Revolutionary war who enlisted from Vermont. Representatives of the Le Baron family afterward came to Illinois and one is now living in Kendall county, while another was a teacher in Ripon College of Ripon, Wisconsin. Chauncey Higgins, son of Daniel and Hannah (Le Baron) Higgins, was born in Rutland county, Vermont, and about 1840 came to Illinois. Two years later, in Will county, he married Emily Root, a daughter of Martin and Abigail (Starns) Root, who were farming people of Vermont. Martin Root was the only one of his family of the older generation who came to Illinois and his remains now rest in a burying ground at Downers Grove. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Higgins were born five children: Emily Frances, James Chauncey and Daniel Franklin, all deceased; Olney E., who is living in Naperville, Illinois; and Charles Sumner, who has also passed away.

The family home was established upon a farm of one hundred and forty acres in Du Page township, Will county, and there Daniel F. Higgins spent his youthful days, his time being largely devoted to the acquirement of an education in the public schools until he reached the age of twelve years. The country was then involved in Civil war and the boy determined that he would join the army. Accordingly he enlisted as a member of the One Hundredth Illinois Regiment in Chicago but his father and mother followed him to the front and took him home, feeling that he was entirely too young for military service. Later he once more offered his services to the government. This time parental authority did not intervene and he became a member of the One Hundredth Regiment but was later transferred to the Fifty-first Illinois, with which he continued until the close of hostilities. The same patriotic spirit was manifest throughout his entire life in all of his duties of citizenship. With the close of the war he resumed his education at Warrenville, Illinois, and later became a student in the Northwestern College, from which in due course of time he was graduated at Naperville. His commercial training was received in the Bryant & Stratton Business College but desiring to enter upon a professional career, he became a law student in the office of Hager & Flanders in Joliet. After a thorough course of preliminary reading he was admitted to the bar and entered at once upon active practice, in which he continued until the time of his death. He never specialized in any particular branch but continued in the general practice of law and was well versed in the various departments of jurisprudence, so that he capably handled many cases of a varied nature. At different times he was in partnership with Mr. Staley, A. F. Mather, Mr. Aiken and later F. W. Walter. He was elected in 1884 and served for one term as states attorney but preferred to devote his attention to private practice and was accorded a large and important clientage, the court records attesting the fact that he was retained as counsel for the defense or prosecution in many of the leading cases heard in the courts of his district.

At the home of the bride in Jackson township, Will county, on the 4th of May, 1881, Mr. Higgins was united in marriage to Miss Mary Brown, a daughter of Ara Broadwell and Martha (Hougham) Brown. The father, a native of the state of New York, was a son of Peter and Mary (Teeple) Brown, who in 1835 removed from Onondaga county, New York, to Jackson township, Will county, Illinois, and took up a tract of government land there which is still owned by the family. Father and son were both active, prominent and influential residents of the community in which they made their

home. Their real-estate holdings were extensive, their possessions covering two miles of land there. Peter Brown laid out a private burying ground that is now known as Brown's cemetery and when he was called to his final rest his remains were there interred. His son, A. B. Brown, wedded Martha Hougham, who was born in Ohio and was of English descent. They were married October 11, 1846, and became the parents of thirteen children, of whom five are yet living: Elias, a resident farmer of Jackson township, Will county; Frank, who follows farming on the old homestead; N. Jane; Martha May; and Mary, who became Mrs. Higgins. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Higgins were eight in number: Daniel Franklin, who is now in Korea; Charles Chauncey, living in North Dakota; Helen Jane; Marshall Fargo, who is studying law; Max Brown, a student in the Illinois State University; Mary Margaret, who is attending school at Mount Carroll, Illinois; and Ara Broadwell and Alfred Nash, both at home. The husband and father died March 25, 1909, and his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret not only among his family but throughout Joliet and wherever he was known. The same spirit of patriotism and loyalty which prompted his enlistment in his early boyhood days characterized him in all of his relations of citizenship and was particularly manifest in his active and practical efforts to promote the welfare of his city while serving as a member of its council. He was also a member of both school boards for a number of years, was greatly interested in the cause of progressive education, worked hard at all times for the benefit of the schools and was largely instrumental in the location of the high school. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, which had been the defense of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war and which he always regarded as the party of reform and progress. He therefore labored actively for its success. He belonged to the Grand Army of the Republic, to the Masonic fraternity, the Modern Woodmen camp and the Elks lodge and the principles which governed his life were further indicated in the fact that he held membership in the White Cross and attended the Universalist church. He was a liberal minded man of broad views, of kindly spirit, of ready sympathy. To him life meant opportunity for growth and improvement and he sought not only individual advancement but ever aided in the work of general progress and improvement, prompted thereto by public spirit.



## Andrew Hamilton



AMONG the citizens whom Ottawa and La Salle county could ill afford to lose was Andrew Hamilton who, at the age of nineteen years, became a resident of that city, and throughout the remainder of his life was identified with commercial interests. He was born at Fairfield, Connecticut, May 25, 1835, and was a son of James and Isabelle (Gilerist) Hamilton, both of whom were natives of Scotland. They spent their childhood and youth in that country and were married near Glasgow. Soon afterward they arrived in the new world and became residents of Fairfield, Connecticut, where they lived for about a year and then removed to Rockland county, New York. The father, who made farming his life work, became a landowner of that district and gave his attention throughout his remaining days to the further development and improvement of his farm. Both he and his wife died in that locality after reaching a very advanced age, the father passing away in 1890, at the age of ninety-three, and the mother in 1897, when ninety-one years of age.

Andrew Hamilton had the benefit of academical training in New York city after attending district schools near his father's home. A desire to try the opportunities offered by the west led him to Illinois when he was nineteen years of age. He made his way direct to Ottawa, obtaining a position as clerk in a general store, in which he remained for a number of years, his capability and fidelity winning the confidence and high regard of his employer. He afterward entered the service of a Mr. Armour, who was engaged in a lime, cement and brick business. After about two years Mr. Hamilton purchased the interests of his employer and extended the scope of his activities to include the sale of flour, feed, etc. In that business he continued until his death, December 9, 1903, remaining for many years a well known and representative merchant of the city. His business methods were always straightforward and reliable, never seeking disguise, and the high regard entertained for him by his fellow townsmen was well merited. In addition to his mercantile interests he became the owner of a number of building lots, including those on which he conducted

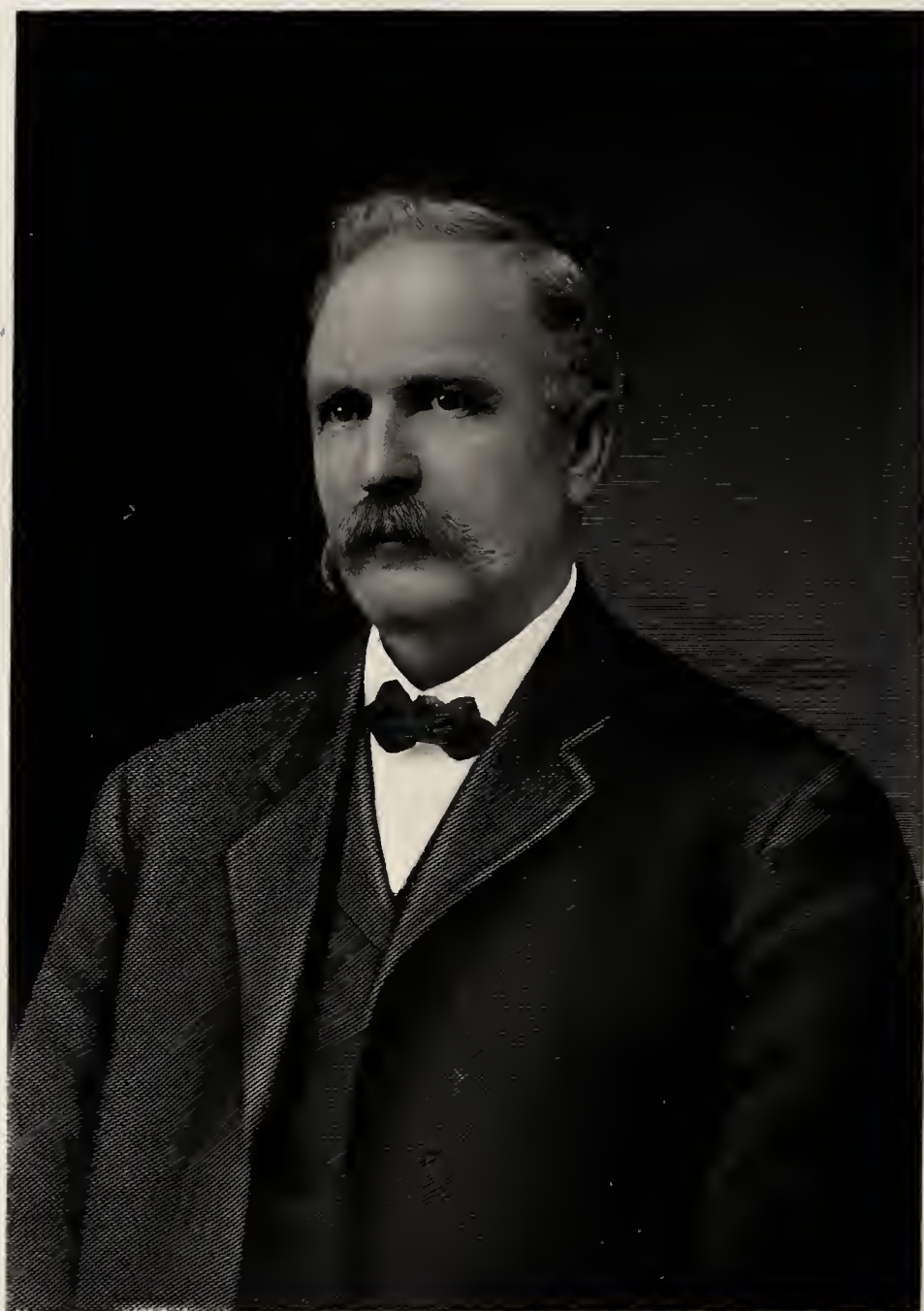
his business, at No. 222 Main street. He was also the owner of several valuable residence properties, including that occupied by his widow, at No. 1104 Paul street.

On the 12th of September, 1876, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hamilton and Miss Serena L. Bayley who was born in Ottawa, August 6, 1840, and is a daughter of William Thomas and Harriet (Landy) Bayley. Her father was born in Dorchester, Massachusetts, in 1805, and the mother in Troy, New York, in 1808. In early life Mr. Bayley became a painter and house decorator in Boston, Massachusetts, where he remained until 1839, when he left New England and came to Illinois, settling in Ottawa, after having resided for about two years in Aurora. Very shortly after coming to Ottawa he was elected justice of the peace, receiving his papers from Governor Ford and serving until his death. From that time forward he lived retired, save for the performance of his official duties. His decisions were always strictly fair and impartial, being based upon the law and the equity of the case. He continued to reside in Ottawa until called to his final rest in the year 1847. His widow long survived him, making her home in Ottawa until 1894, when she, too, passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton attended the Congregational church, of which the latter is a member. His political support was given to the republican party but he never aspired to office and in fact refused to become a candidate for political positions on a number of different occasions. He never allied himself with fraternal organizations, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his business affairs and devoted his leisure hours to the enjoyment of the home. His social, genial nature found expression in his friendships and those who met him socially regarded him as a most congenial and interesting companion.

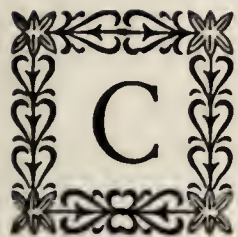
Mrs. Hamilton has been a life-long resident of La Salle county, living there for seventy-two years, during which period she has witnessed almost the entire growth and development of that section. She can relate many interesting incidents of the early days when Ottawa was a small town and when the work of improvement and progress seemed scarcely begun there.





*J. Donahoe*

## John T. Donahoe



ARLYLE, historian and philosopher, said: "The story of any man's life would have interest and value if truly told." Among Joliet's citizens who left the impress of their individuality upon the upbuilding and development of the city was John T. Donahoe. A man of well balanced activities and powers, he occupied a central place on the stage of action for many years. The simplicity and beauty of his daily life were seen in his home and family relations, constituting an even balance to his excellent professional ability which won for him a creditable place among the leading lawyers of Joliet. He was born in this city October 15, 1855, his parents, Timothy and Mary Donahoe, having become early residents here when they left their old home in Tipperary, Ireland, and sailed for the new world five years before. At a later period Timothy Donahoe removed to Wilmington, Illinois, and had resided there for five years when death called him. His wife also passed away in that place.

There were four children in the family, including John T. Donahoe, who pursued his education in the schools of Joliet and when he had put aside his text-books entered the grocery business in Wilmington in connection with his brother. About 1875 he removed to Braidwood, where he conducted a grocery business independently for three years. He mastered with thoroughness anything that he undertook and carried forward to successful completion his well formulated plans. In 1878, however, he was called from private to public life and disposed of his store in Braidwood. He returned to Joliet to enter upon the duties of the office of county treasurer to which he had been elected on the democratic and greenback tickets. For three years he filled that position and at different times he also served on the school board and as a member of the city council, representing the sixth ward. As such he was one of the heroic figures of the high license contest and gave evidence to the public of his sincerity and his courage. On his retirement from the office of county treasurer he entered the real-estate business and while thus engaged took up the study of law. Admitted to the bar, he at once began practice in Joliet, dis-

continuing his efforts in the real-estate field. He continued in general practice, never specializing in any particular department of the law. He was a close and discriminating student and never neglected to give a thorough preparation while his devotion to his client's interests became proverbial. He entered into the financial field as one of the organizers of the Joliet National Bank and his sound judgment constituted an important element in its successful conduct. It was characteristic of him that he accomplished whatever he undertook and no trust reposed in him was ever betrayed in the slightest degree.

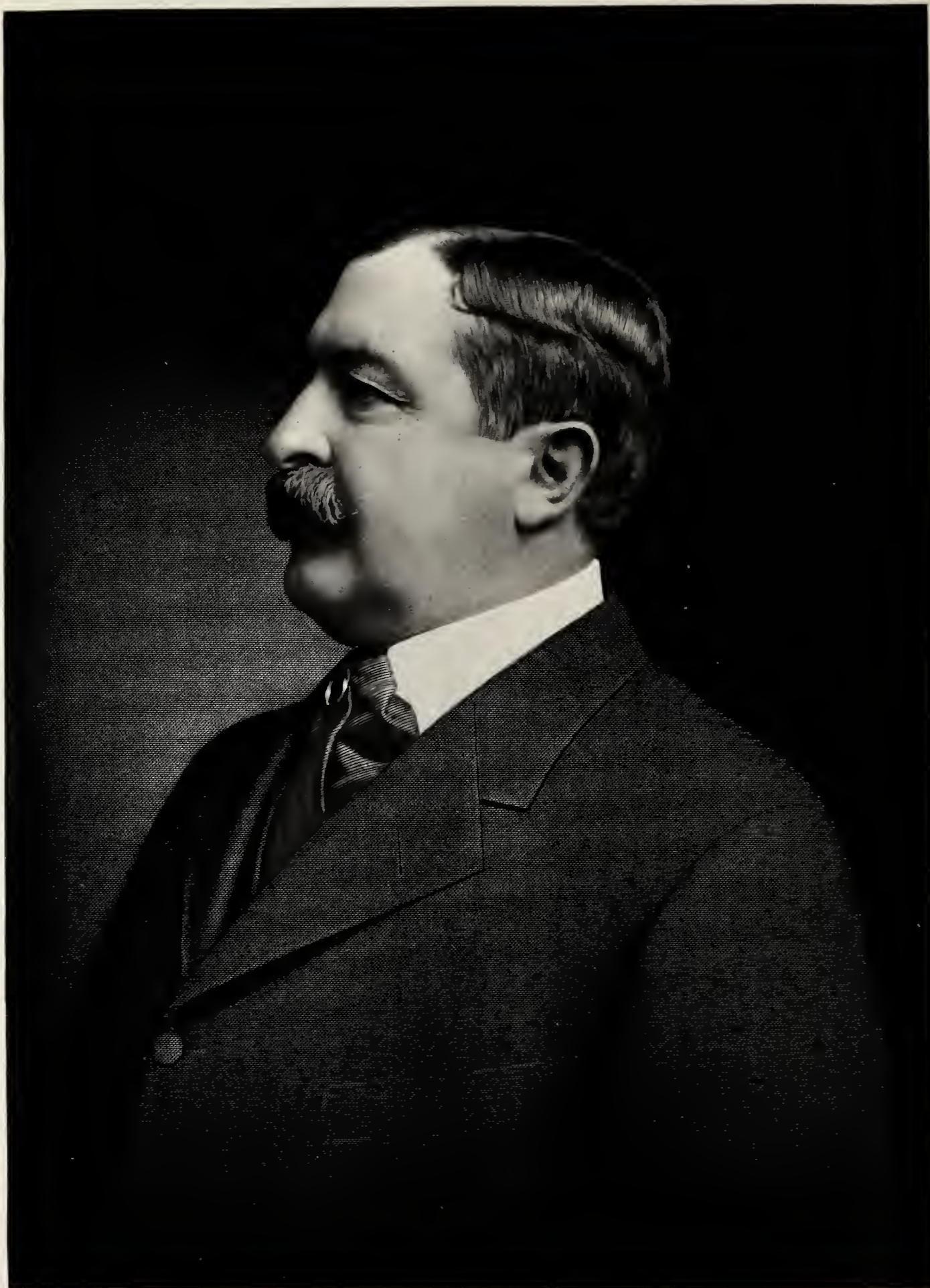
On the 31st of October, 1876, Mr. Donahoe was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Dyer, a daughter of George and Anna Dyer, who were natives of Ireland and came to the United States in the '50s. They settled in Braidwood where they became identified with farming interests, and there remained until called to their final rest. It was in that town that Mr. and Mrs. Donahoe were married. As the years passed five children were added to the family circle: Teresa, the wife of William Redmond, of Joliet; Loretta, the wife of Mason Towle, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Cecelia; Lillian; and John J. The family circle was broken by the hand of death when on the 19th of July, 1911, Mr. Donahoe was called to his final rest. He was a devoted husband and father, finding his greatest happiness in ministering to the welfare of his wife and children and their companionship was his chief delight. He held membership in St. Patrick's Catholic church, in which he was an active and earnest worker. He belonged also to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, to the Ancient Order of Hibernians and for some time was grand knight of the Knights of Columbus. In club circles, too, he was well known, being a representative and valued member of the Commercial and Country Clubs of Joliet. His political allegiance was always given to the democratic party and he was recognized as one of its local leaders, his opinions carrying weight in its councils.

Five years prior to his death Mr. Donahoe suffered a stroke of paralysis which partially crippled him but he kept on with his practice and sought the restoration of his health on the golf links, being an almost daily visitor to the Country Club until he was confined to his bed. In manner he was modest and unassuming and free from all ostentation or display, but his friends and associates paid tribute to his character and his worth, establishing his position as one of the leading and honored residents of Joliet. Robert Kelly, the president of the Joliet National Bank, said of him: "He was one of the organizers of the Joliet National Bank and for many years we have been very close friends. He was a very good business man and one of the best

commercial lawyers this city ever had, very honorable, upright and sincere in all of his transactions. His statements could always be relied upon and his judgment was sought by many. He seemed to have a keen insight into all business matters and a sort of intuition about things. He was always loyal to his friends of whom he had many." Mr. McKeown, at one time his partner, said: "I commenced the practice of law in Mr. Donahoe's office and it seemed to me that no one could be more kind, patient and willing in helping a young lawyer to get started. I always had high regard for him for he possessed great ability and his word could always be relied upon." Col. McNaughton, long associated with Mr. Donahoe in his law practice, said: "His business career like his domestic life was ideal. He was temperate in all things and possessed what might be termed an additional sense of instinct above the average man. He was a good judge of human nature and his opinions were largely based on that instinct. He was, moreover, a man of superior judgment in business matters and, basing his opinion solely at times upon that instinct he reached conclusions which were absolutely correct. For twenty years he was my partner in the practice of law and during that time we never had a controversy over a single penny. He was square in all of his dealings, was a model husband and father and a very useful citizen." The simple telling of his life's history cannot fail to inspire and encourage others, showing what may be accomplished when energy leads the way and when high principles constitute the guiding spirit of life. His breadth of view not only saw possibilities for his own advancement but also for the city's development and his lofty patriotism prompted him to utilize the latter as quickly and as effectively as the former. He never allowed personal interests nor ambitions to dwarf his public spirit or activities. His was the record of a strong individuality, sure of itself, stable in purpose, quick in perception, swift in decision, energetic, persistent and honorable in action.








*H. O. Stone*

## Horatio Odell Stone, Jr.

N THE 24th of April, 1912, was closed the life history of Horatio Odell Stone, Jr., who for twenty years had occupied a conspicuous position in business circles of Chicago, operating more extensively in real estate than almost any other resident of the city. Chicago's spirit of enterprise early became a dominant force in his nature and placed him, as it had his father, among the chiefest of the real-estate dealers of the western metropolis. He was born here July 15, 1860. Twenty-six years before his father had come to Chicago and although he resided here at that time for but a brief period he soon returned for permanent residence and established a home which was long a leading social center of the city, while his business activities gave him equal prominence in commercial and financial circles.

At the usual age his son, Horatio O. Stone, Jr., entered the public schools and his more advanced training was received in the Lake Forest Academy, in which he pursued his preparatory course ere entering Yale University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1883. His college training qualified him for civil engineering, which he followed for four years in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado and then returned to Chicago to enter the business field in which his father had become prominent. While in the university he had been conspicuous in athletics and was captain of the baseball team. This and his outdoor experiences as civil engineer developed a strong and robust manhood, constituting the basis of his activity and success in business. Added thereto was sound judgment and remarkable sagacity concerning realty values. In 1888 he entered into partnership with T. W. Magill, under the firm name of H. O. Stone & Company, which firm from that date to the present has wielded a wide influence in real-estate circles and activities in this city.

On the 29th of June, 1893, Mr. Stone was united in marriage to Miss Sara Latimer Clarke, of Baltimore county, Maryland. Their beautiful home, supplied with all that wealth could secure and refined taste suggest, was a popular resort with their many friends and there Mr. Stone found relaxation from the onerous and important

business cares of the day. He found rest and pleasure also in hunting and fishing, frequently utilizing periods of vacation in that way. He was also interested in various momentous public questions and was a factor in a number of social organizations. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party and was long an active member of the Union League Club, taking part in the discussion of those vital problems which have ever been themes of interest with the representative men of that organization. He belonged also to the Chicago Automobile and South Shore Country Clubs, to the Yale Club, to the Scroll and Key, and to the Psi Upsilon fraternity. He was ever loyal to the city of his birth and mindful of its interests and while he did not seek to guide its destinies in any public capacity, he staunchly advocated those measures which sought its permanent good and improvement. He gained friends wherever he went and his record made the name of Horatio O. Stone, Jr., as did that of his father, an honored one throughout the city.



## Judge David Davis



TIME is the master artist that paints the history of the world and the perspective of the years places each occurrence and each actor in their relative position. Occupying a central place was Judge David Davis, his position being with the foremost jurists and statesmen that America has produced. The record of few men in public life has extended over a longer period and none have been more faultless in honor, fearless in conduct and stainless in reputation. Those qualities which men admire and commend were his in superlative degree. America has produced many lawyers of marked ability and statesmen of wide grasp of affairs but the superiority of Judge Davis' powers and talents placed him beyond the successful and among the eminent. Born on the 9th of March, 1815, in Cecil county, Maryland, he was descended from ancestry represented in that locality for more than a century. He passed away in Bloomington, June 26, 1886, at the age of seventy-one years and there remain as a monument to his memory the grateful remembrance and appreciation of his fellow citizens throughout the entire country who recognized his valuable contribution to the world's work. He attended Kenyon College of Ohio, from which he was graduated at the age of seventeen, and among his associates as pupils in that institution were Edward M. Stanton and others who have won distinction in connection with our national history. He was not ground down by biting poverty nor enervated by the expectation of wealth. His father at death left to him a fair patrimony but through the technicalities of the law and the greed of a guardian this was lost and the future distinguished jurist faced the necessity of providing for his own support but had as the foundation of his success and advancement an excellent educational training. In the latter part of 1835 when twenty years of age, he came to Illinois, settling at Pekin, but in consequence of illness which he thought was occasioned by too close proximity to the river he removed in the spring of 1836 to Bloomington and that city thus gained one of her most distinguished and honored citizens. For more than a half century he resided there, participating in the early pioneer development as well as in the later progress and leaving the impress of his individuality, his ability and

his progressive public spirit upon the history of the state. He is described at the time of his arrival in Bloomington as a "young man, buoyant with hope, restless with energy and inspired with the forthcoming of that destiny which awaited the county and state of his adoption." It was his innate character and ability that won him recognition for he had no acquaintance in Bloomington nor financial resources at the time of his arrival. He had early come to a recognition of the eternal truth that industry wins and he had determined to give of his best to the profession which he had chosen as a life work, holding ever to the highest standards. It was a rural community into which he made his entrance—a frontier district in which there was not a single railroad and very few evidences of the planting of the seeds of the civilization known to the older east. He entered actively upon the work of his profession but never in his entire career, even at the outset, did he give undivided attention to his law practice. He felt that there were other duties in life—duties that he owed to his fellow townsmen and duties of citizenship that he owed to the state at large, and even while he was establishing himself as an able lawyer by reason of his careful consideration of his cases and his clear and comprehensive presentation of his cause before the courts he was also promoting in every possible way the welfare and progress of his city and state. Appreciative of what he was doing his fellow townsmen made him a member of the constitutional convention of 1848 and sitting as a member of that body he preserved for McLean county the outlines which it now has, making it the largest county in the state and reserving for it thereby a tract of land which is unexcelled in fertility in Illinois and probably in the entire country. Many other phases of his public activity might be cited and as the years went on his increasing ability led to his selection for positions of still more far-reaching importance.

It was in the early years of his residence in Bloomington, too, that Judge Davis established a home of his own in his marriage, in 1838, to Miss Sarah W. Walker, a daughter of Judge Walker, of Lenox, Massachusetts, a lady whose beauty of character and ability well qualified her for the high position which she occupied as a life companion of one of America's most eminent jurists. Many tales of her goodness, her charity, her sympathy are still told. The poor found in her a friend and the deep sorrow felt at her passing by those whom she had aided was one of the richest tributes that could be paid to the memory of any one. With his newly established home to work for Judge Davis bent his energies to his professional duties and it was soon recognized that he was a strong advocate and a wise counselor.

Marked analytical power characterized his practice of the law and as few men have done he seemed to grasp every point in a ease and give to it its due relative value. While steadily advancing in his profession he was also coming more and more to the front in the political life of the state. That was an era when the successful business or professional man did not hold himself aloof from politics but felt that participation therein was a part of his duty of citizenship. From the early period of his residence here, therefore, Judge Davis was closely connected with political activity. He first visited Bloomington during the memorable campaign of 1836 in which Van Buren was elected to the presidency as the successor of General Jackson. Judge Davis, however, was a supporter of General Harrison, thus adhering to his whig principles. He earnestly advocated his political sentiments as an adherent of the whig party and worked untiringly in his support of its candidates. It was characteristic of him throughout his entire life that he labored much more earnestly to secure the election of his friends than he did to promote his own interests in a political way. In fact in early life he seemed to possess no ambition whatever in that direction but talents such as his could not remain hidden and in 1840 the whig party made him its candidate in the Bloomington district for state senator. His party, however, was largely in the minority and he was defeated by Governor John Moore, at that time and for many years thereafter one of the most distinguished citizens and popular men of the state.

In following his profession he was diligent and his devotion to his clients' interests became proverbial. He regarded the pursuits of private life in themselves as abundantly worthy of his best efforts and felt the most unfaltering devotion to his profession, realizing its high mission as the protection of the rights and liberties, the life and property of the individual. He gave proof of his power to rank with the ablest men of the state in the professional field including Lincoln, Douglas, Stephen T. Logan, Baker, Trumbull and others. They felt his power, acknowledged his ability and honored him for what he accomplished. He declined to fill the office of clerk of the court though it would have given him four times the annual income that he was then deriving from his practice, and continued an active representative of his profession. His clientele grew gradually and for twelve years he maintained a high position at the bar to which he had risen through his capability, professional integrity and the keen discernment that enabled him apply with absolute accuracy the principles of law applicable to the points in litigation. He had aided in framing the laws of the state as a member of the legislature following the elec-

tion of 1844 and the clearness and force of his views enabled him to have a commanding influence in the committee room. That experience further qualified him for the splendid work which he did in the constitutional convention of 1848. In the proceedings of that body he took an important part, especially in the work relative to the judicial department of the state government. Upon the adoption of the new constitution there arose the necessity of reorganizing the judiciary and at the first election that followed he was chosen circuit judge in a district composed of fourteen counties extending from Woodford on the northwest to Edgar on the southeast. In the early years of his practice and during his initial service on the bench he became closely associated with Abraham Lincoln and the kindred natures of these men of master minds drew them together in a strong friendship that existed until the death of the president. One of the strong characteristics of Judge Davis was his unerring judgment concerning men, their dominant qualities and ability. He recognized in Mr. Lincoln intellectual and moral qualities of the highest order and became one of those men active in indorsing his candidacy.

When Judge Davis took his position on the circuit court bench not a survey had been made in preparation for the building of a railroad, so that he had to ride over the country in visiting the fourteen different counties on his circuit in which he had to hold two sessions of court each year. Again we quote from one of his earlier biographers who said: "The clearness and quickness of his mind, his preparatory education at college and in the law and his twelve years of practice had fully capacitated him to discharge with promptness the various and arduous duties of the profession. In some of the qualities of a jurist he had few if any superiors in the long line of eminent judges who have graced the courts of the state. His administration of the law as circuit judge was most eminently satisfactory to the people of the district and to the members of the bar. But few appeals were taken from his decisions and his dispatch of business partook of the energy and industry which marked his entire career." Judge Davis went upon the bench in 1849 and wore the ermine until February, 1877, when without solicitation on his part he was chosen to represent Illinois in the United States senate. The favorable opinion which his fellow citizens entertained for him at the beginning of his judicial career was strengthened and augmented as the years went by, for he discharged his duties in a way that more than justified the most sanguine expectations of his supporters. In 1862 when a vacancy occurred in the supreme court of the United States in the circuit including Illinois he was the first mentioned as the most suit-

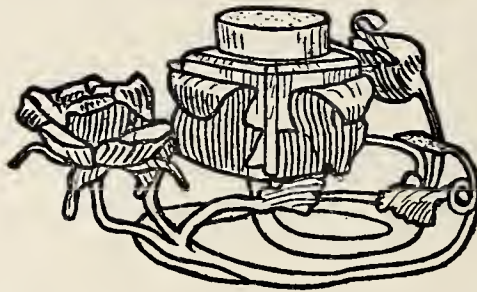
able candidate for the position. The power of appointment to this office was in the hands of Lincoln who for many years had practiced in the court over which Judge Davis presided and who recognized the strength of his intellect, the trend of his ability and his notable power in the interpretation and application of the law. The supreme court during the time of Judge Davis' services was engaged in settling questions growing out of the war and incident to the reconstruction. His appointment came to him from his old-time friend, President Lincoln, and as a representative of that high tribunal he made a record which places his name among the foremost of those whom history regards as America's most eminent jurists.

When he had served in the courts for nearly thirty years he was called to aid in framing national legislation in his selection to the United States senate, where his standing as a judge gave him important prestige. He was placed on the judiciary committee with men of national reputation and renown, serving there as a colleague of Thurman, Edmunds, Conkling, Bayard and Carpenter. The experiences which he had in the state courts of Illinois and in the United States supreme court had given him a breadth of learning and experience which enabled him to at once win the regard and confidence of the entire senate, so that when a vacancy occurred in the office of vice president he was selected to preside over the senate which he did for nearly two years. Thus in another field he left the impress of his ability upon the history of the nation. With his retirement from office he returned to his old home in Bloomington to pass there the quiet evening of life, traveling the journey with undiminished honor and respect until its close. Though his activities had been of the greatest importance to the nation he did not regard it as beneath him to take active and helpful interest in municipal affairs and aided in guiding the destiny of the city which he called his home.

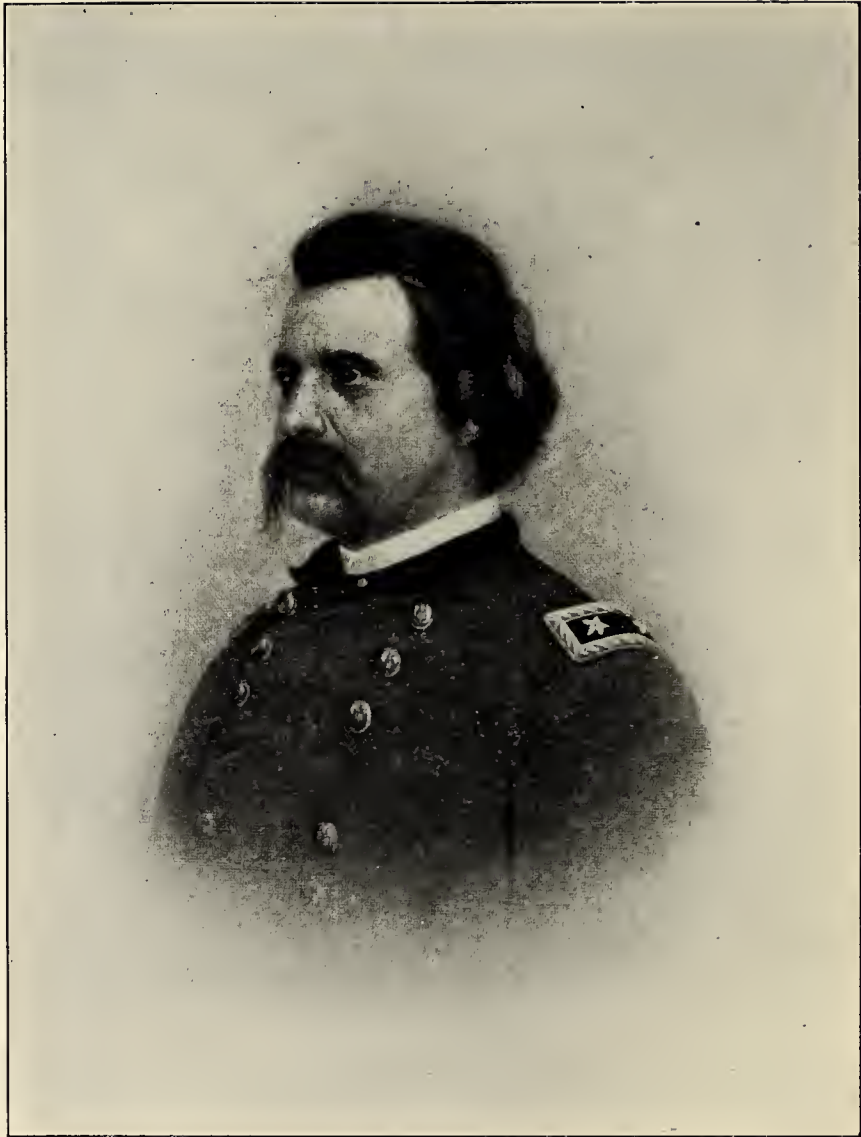
Upon his retirement from the senate Judge Davis was married, in 1883, to Miss Addie Burr, of North Carolina, a lady of many estimable qualities. His home life was most attractive in its simplicity and its comfort and in its atmosphere of high intellectual attainment. To those who knew him in his home city Judge Davis was friend and neighbor. While his record graced the annals of the country he held himself as not above those with whom he was associated in the earlier years of his struggle for success and advancement and it is said that no one of his locality and generation performed more acts of individual kindness. To those who did him a favor or showed him friendship it was returned fourfold. It is only a great nature that can turn aside from the momentous things of life to participate with sin-

cerity in the humbler activities. The man in Judge Davis, with all of his grave interests and responsibilities, was never lost. He was a statesman and jurist of eminent power but he was also a man in those qualities which make for strong friendships and which remember kindnesses. It might well have been of Judge Davis that the words were penned:

“He leaves a patriot’s name to after times,  
Linked with a thousand virtues and no crimes.”







*John A. Logan*

## John A. Logan



LOGAN was a natural soldier," says Senator Cullom in his recent book. "His shoulders were broad, his presence commanding; with his swarthy face and coal-black hair, 'and eye like Mars, to threaten and command,' he was every inch a warrior. There is no question that General Logan was the greatest volunteer officer of the Civil war."

John Alexander Logan was born in Jackson county, Illinois, February 9, 1826, the son of Dr. John Logan, after whom Logan county was named, who was a native of Ireland and an early emigrant to Illinois. He had no schooling until he was fourteen; he then studied for three years in a collegiate institution. At the breaking out of the Mexican war he enlisted as a private and was afterward promoted to be a lieutenant. He was elected clerk of Jackson county in 1849, but resigned the office to attend a course in the law department of the Louisville University from which he graduated in 1851. He then formed a law partnership with his uncle, Alexander M. Jenkins, a former lieutenant-governor of the state. In 1852, Logan was elected to the legislature and again in 1856.

Logan was married to Mary S. Cunningham, a daughter of John M. Cunningham, on November 27, 1855. In 1858 and 1860, he was elected to the National House of Representatives as a Democrat. His sympathies being strongly for the Union cause, he left his seat during the session of 1861, and fought in the ranks at the battle of Bull Run though unattached and unenlisted. He resigned his seat in Congress and returned to Illinois where he organized the Thirty-first Regiment of Volunteers, and was commissioned its Colonel by Governor Yates.

During the four years of the Civil war Logan came to be regarded as one of the ablest officers who entered the army from civil life. In Grant's campaigns, terminating in the capture of Vicksburg, Logan, who now commanded a division, was the first to enter the city with the troops under him, and was selected by General Grant to be the military governor of Vicksburg. "This was a most exacting and depressing task," writes Mrs. Logan in a recent magazine article, "which brought him in contact with the most horrible side of war—

the side that made women and children share the dangers and privations of the fighters. He had to police the city, look after sanitation in order to avoid an epidemic, and relieve the hunger and suffering of a population which had been living in caves with starvation fighting on the side of the besiegers. His leniency and personal activity in looking after them made him popular with the people."

Logan was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general after the battle of Fort Donelson where he was constantly engaged and rendered the most valuable service. In the following year he was offered the nomination of congressman-at-large in Illinois. He declined the offer in a letter of which the following was the closing paragraph: "In conclusion, let me request that your desire to associate my name with the high and honorable position you would confer upon me, be at once dismissed, and some more suitable and worthy person substituted. Meanwhile I shall continue to look with unfeigned pride and admiration on the continuance of the present able conduct of our state affairs, and feel that I am sufficiently honored while acknowledged as an humble soldier of our own peerless state."

The rank of major-general of volunteers was conferred upon him, and in November, 1863, he succeeded General Sherman to the command of the Fifteenth Army Corps, and after the death of General McPherson he was in command of the Army of the Tennessee at the battle of Atlanta. He was soon succeeded, however, in command of the Army of the Tennessee by General O. O. Howard, who says in his "Autobiography" that "in one of the battles after the taking of Atlanta, Major-General Logan was spirited and energetic, going at once to the point where he apprehended the slightest danger of the enemy's success. His decision and resolution everywhere animated and encouraged his officers and men." General Logan suffered considerably from disappointment at being obliged to yield command of the corps to General O. O. Howard, but with the instincts of a true soldier he accepted the situation and resumed his command of the Fifteenth Corps. On the "March to the Sea," General Logan rendered most distinguished service.

In his "Autobiography," already referred to, General Howard relates the following interesting episode: "A few days before the Grand Review at Washington General Sherman called me into the office of General Townsend, the adjutant-general of the army. We were there by ourselves. General Sherman then said that he wanted me to surrender the command of the Army of the Tennessee to Logan before the review. This caused me much feeling, and under the pressure of it I replied that I had maneuvered and fought this army

from Atlanta, all the way through. Sherman replied, 'I know it, but it will be everything to Logan to have this opportunity.' Then, speaking very gently, as Sherman could, to one near him whom he esteemed, he said, 'Howard, you are a Christian, and won't mind such a sacrifice!' I answered, 'Surely, if you put it on that ground, I submit.' "

Accordingly General Logan rode at the head of the Army of the Tennessee at the Grand Review on May 24, 1865. General Howard was favored by General Sherman with a position at his side, the two riding abreast along Pennsylvania avenue on that occasion, and thus, as Howard says, "he sought to allay any irritation I might feel on account of what had taken place."

When the war closed, Logan once more entered the political arena, and was elected to Congress as a Republican, serving from 1867 to 1871, and as senator from 1871 until 1877, and again from 1879 until his death. General Logan died at Washington, December 26, 1886.

John A. Logan was a strong partisan, and was identified with the radical wing of his party. His brilliant war record and his great personal following, especially among the veterans of the war, contributed to his nomination for Vice President in 1884 on the ticket with James G. Blaine, but the ticket suffered defeat in the fall elections. He was the commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic from 1868 to 1871, and as such he successfully advocated the observance of Memorial Day.

An equestrian statue of General Logan, designed and executed by Augustus St. Gaudens, stands today in Grant Park at Chicago, one of the city's chiefest ornaments. It was unveiled July 22, 1897, which day was declared a holiday by the mayor of Chicago, and the occasion was celebrated by an immense concourse of citizens, and by an imposing parade of troops of the United States army, the National Guard of Illinois, and by the Grand Army of the Republic.



## Daniel Pope Cook



IT HAS been written of the subject of this sketch that "Cook was undoubtedly one of the ablest and most remarkable men whose name ever graced the annals of Illinois." These are the words of Elihu B. Washburne, himself a man closely identified with a later stage of the history of the state and nation. Daniel P. Cook was born in Kentucky in 1795, removed to Illinois in 1815 and began the practice of law at Kaskaskia. Early in the next year he became part owner and editor of the Illinois Intelligencer, and at the same time served as auditor of public accounts by appointment of Governor Edwards. In 1817 he was sent by President Monroe as bearer of dispatches to John Quincy Adams, then our minister to England. On his return he was appointed a circuit judge, and on the admission of the state he was elected the first attorney general. In 1819 he resigned this position and was elected to congress serving in the house of representatives for eight years.

Having married a daughter of Governor Ninian Edwards he became a resident of Edwardsville. He was a conspicuous opponent of the proposition to make Illinois a slave state giving Governor Coles efficient aid in the conduct of the campaign. He also while in congress bore a prominent part in securing donations of lands by the United States government in aid of the construction of the Illinois and Michigan canal. He was distinguished for his eloquence, and it was during his first congressional campaign that stump speaking was introduced into the state. When Cook county was created in 1831 it received its name in honor of Daniel P. Cook, who had then been dead four years but was held in honorable remembrance by his contemporaries. Washburne, in a note on Cook printed in the "Edwards Papers," a volume published by the Chicago Historical Society in 1884, said: "In respect of his high character, his great ability, his honorable name, and of the inestimable service he rendered to our great commonwealth, the County of Cook should erect a monument to his memory."

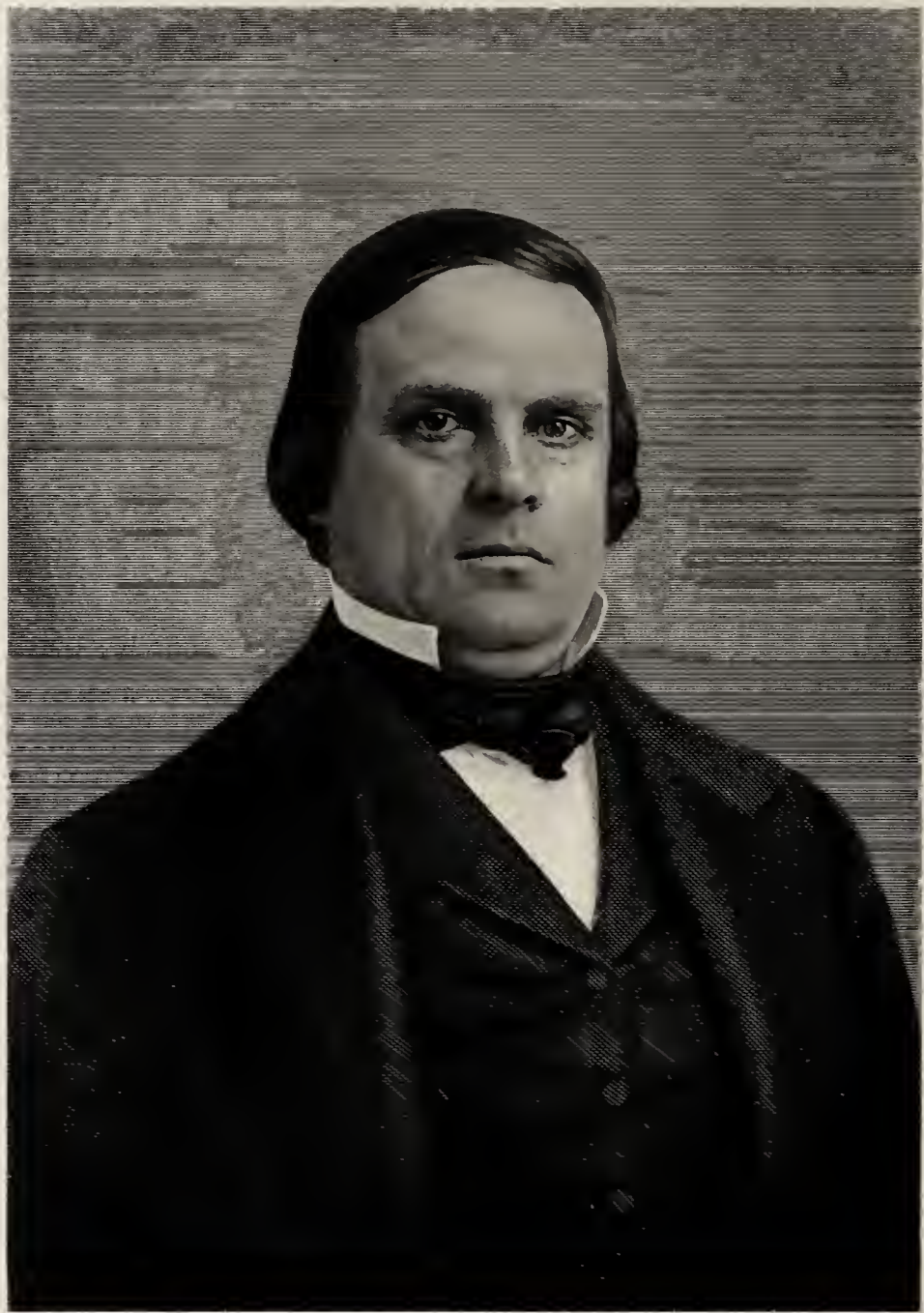
During his last session in congress, Mr. Cook discharged the duties of chairman of the ways and means committee, a position which involved so much labor as to overtask his physical powers, and the close

of the session found him with health seriously impaired. With a view to the recovery of his strength he accepted the appointment of a special mission to Cuba, and embarked for that island expecting great benefit from its mild climate. It was, however, a vain hope, and in a few months thereafter he returned to his home in Edwardsville. But nothing could stay the progress of the disease (consumption) from which he was suffering.

When he became convinced that the end was approaching his mind reverted to the place of his birth in Kentucky where he wished once more to look upon the scenes of his childhood home. He breathed his last soon after his arrival there, on October 16, 1827. "Though cut down at the early age of thirty-two," says Washburne, "he had accomplished more than most men during the course of a long life. In him statesmanship seemed native and intuitive. In the house of representatives he showed a complete mastery of all questions that were to be discussed, and he stated his conclusions with such clearness, force and precision as always to command the strictest attention of members. There was before him when he died the promise of a most brilliant and distinguished career, which would have added additional lustre to his name and brought additional honor to the state of his adoption."







ALEXANDER T. HILL

## Alexander T. Hill




IT HAS been said that banking institutions are the heart of the commercial body, indicating the healthfulness of trade. It is therefore evident that the public service of the banker is an important one, giving him many opportunities but also placing upon him heavy responsibilities. The man who capably meets the former and discharges the latter is worthy of high respect, and in such regard Alexander T. Hill, of Decatur, was ever held. He figured prominently in financial circles of that city during the greater part of the thirty years of his residence there. He was seventy years of age at the time of his death, which occurred in 1888. He was born in Virginia in 1818 and at the usual age began his education, attending private schools in the Old Dominion. He early displayed special aptitude in his studies and his fondness for books developed as the years went on. His wide reading and keen observation made him a well informed and highly educated man.

Mr. Hill made his start in the business world as a clerk in a general store at Belleville, Illinois. He went to Decatur in 1856, when it was still a comparatively small town, and from that time until the close of the Civil war owned and conducted a general mercantile store in that city. A few years later, however, he disposed of his stock and turned his attention to banking, becoming one of the founders of the Decatur Bank, which he virtually established and took charge of when it had but eleven dollars on deposit and placed it upon a paying basis. It grew and prospered from the beginning and eventually became the Decatur National Bank but is now known as the National Bank of Decatur. He served as its president and was one of its most extensive stockholders until about the time of his death. He recognized the fact that the bank which most carefully safeguards the interests of its patrons is the one most worthy of success and he ever instituted and followed conservative methods which made his one of the strong financial institutions of this part of the state. He regarded no detail as too unimportant to claim his attention and his thorough knowledge of the banking business in every phase enabled him to correctly solve intricate and involved financial problems.

Mr. Hill was married at Randolph, New York, September 6, 1860, to Miss Sarah D. Wilder, a daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Dow) Wilder. Mr. and Mrs. Hill became the parents of a son, Edward, who after his marriage continued to make his home with his mother, her interest largely centering in his family. The father, Alexander T. Hill, established his home at the corner of North Church street and West Prairie avenue in 1861 and there Mrs. Hill still resides.

Decatur found in him a worthy and valued citizen aside from his business connections. He voted with the republican party and was interested in all matters of local progress. He served both as alderman and mayor of Decatur and exercised his official prerogatives in this connection to advance the best interests of the city along lines of reform and improvement. He was likewise a member of the board of supervisors and his work as a member of the school board largely promoted the interests of education in Decatur. He gave generously to the support of the First Presbyterian and Baptist churches, although he himself was liberal in his religious views. He sought, however, the moral progress of the community and his entire life showed forth the principles of honorable manhood and citizenship. No duty was by him neglected and his memory is yet cherished by those who knew him, although almost a quarter of a century has passed since he was called from this life.

## Nathaniel Pope

ERHAPS no man has left a deeper impress upon the history of Illinois than Nathaniel Pope. This is stated especially in connection with the determination of the state's northern boundary, an account of which is given in the historical introduction to this work. Nathaniel Pope was born in 1784 at Louisville, Kentucky, and received his education at Transylvania University, where he graduated with high honors. In 1808 he became a resident of Kaskaskia and in the following year was appointed the first secretary of Illinois territory. He had studied law before his removal to the territory, and at once upon his arrival he became interested in its political development.

He was elected a territorial delegate to congress in 1816, and proved himself not only devoted to the interests of his constituents but also a shrewd tactician. His native judgment was strong and profound, and his intellect quick and far-reaching, while both were thoroughly trained and disciplined by study. He was largely instrumental in securing the passage of the act authorizing the formation of a state government, and it was mainly through his efforts that the northern boundary of Illinois was fixed where it is to-day, instead of on an east and west line drawn through the southerly extremity of Lake Michigan as was at first proposed. This change was made after the bill for admitting the state had been introduced, by means of what has since become known as Pope's Amendment. Through this change a tract of country was added to the state domain sixty-one miles in width, extending from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi river, containing an area of eight thousand, five hundred square miles of fertile country, richly diversified with forests, plains and rivers, within the limits of which at the present time are located fourteen counties with many populous and prosperous cities. Within this tract lies the entire length of the Illinois and Michigan canal to which a great share of the state's prosperity was so greatly indebted.

"No man ever rendered the state a more important service in congress," says Moses, "than did Nathaniel Pope." That the fixing of the northern boundary of the state, by means of the famous amendment, had momentous consequences can be seen in the state's subse-

quent history. Had the northern tier of counties included within the sixty-one mile strip become attached to Wisconsin, as it inevitably would have been, the state of Illinois would have lacked, when issues of tremendous moment were at stake, an important element in her legislature at the time of the breaking out of the Civil war, an element which owing to the very different character of its early settlers Wisconsin did not require in making effective its loyal support of the Union.

Whether or not the splendid support given to the Union cause by the state of Illinois, in the years from 1861 to 1865, was of such importance as to justify Pope's declaration, when arguing for his amendment, that the state might become "the keystone to the perpetuity of the Union," may be regarded differently by historians. But the commanding position occupied by Illinois during the Civil war, with one of its citizens in the presidential chair and another leading its two hundred and fifty thousand soldiery and the armies of the Union, went far to make good the claim of Pope in his declaration.

After the admission of Illinois as a state Pope was appointed United States judge of the district, which at first embraced the entire state. This office he filled with dignity, impartiality and acceptability. "He was a profound lawyer, an able legislator, a dignified and upright, yet a courteous judge, and wore the ermine for over thirty years without a stain," says the historian, John Moses. Pope county was so named in his honor. He was the father of John Pope who attained to the rank of major-general in the Civil war.

In U. F. Linder's reminiscences, published in 1879, he writes of Judge Pope's personal appearance, that "he was rather above than below medium height, and rather corpulent; a man could not look upon him without thinking that he was a man of considerable intellectual power;" and quotes Stephen T. Logan as saying that "Judge Pope was a man of the finest legal mind he ever knew." Linder concludes his sketch of Pope by saying: "I have often partaken of the old man's hospitality, and I desire to pay a tribute of gratitude and respect to his memory by saying that I cherish for him the kindest and most grateful remembrance."

We have given a sketch of Daniel Pope Cook in another place. There were so many passages in the careers of both, Nathaniel Pope and Daniel Pope Cook, that were similar that it will be instructive to make a brief review of their personal histories and achievements, in the form of a "parallel," after the manner of Plutarch, the ancient historian. Pope was born in Kentucky in 1784; Cook was born in the same state in 1795. They were related to each other, Pope being

the uncle of Cook. Pope came to Illinois territory in 1809; Cook, eleven years his junior, came in 1815. Both entered upon the practice of law at Kaskaskia, and both entered the political field. Pope was elected a delegate to congress from the territory in 1816, and at the same time Cook was appointed a judge of the western circuit.

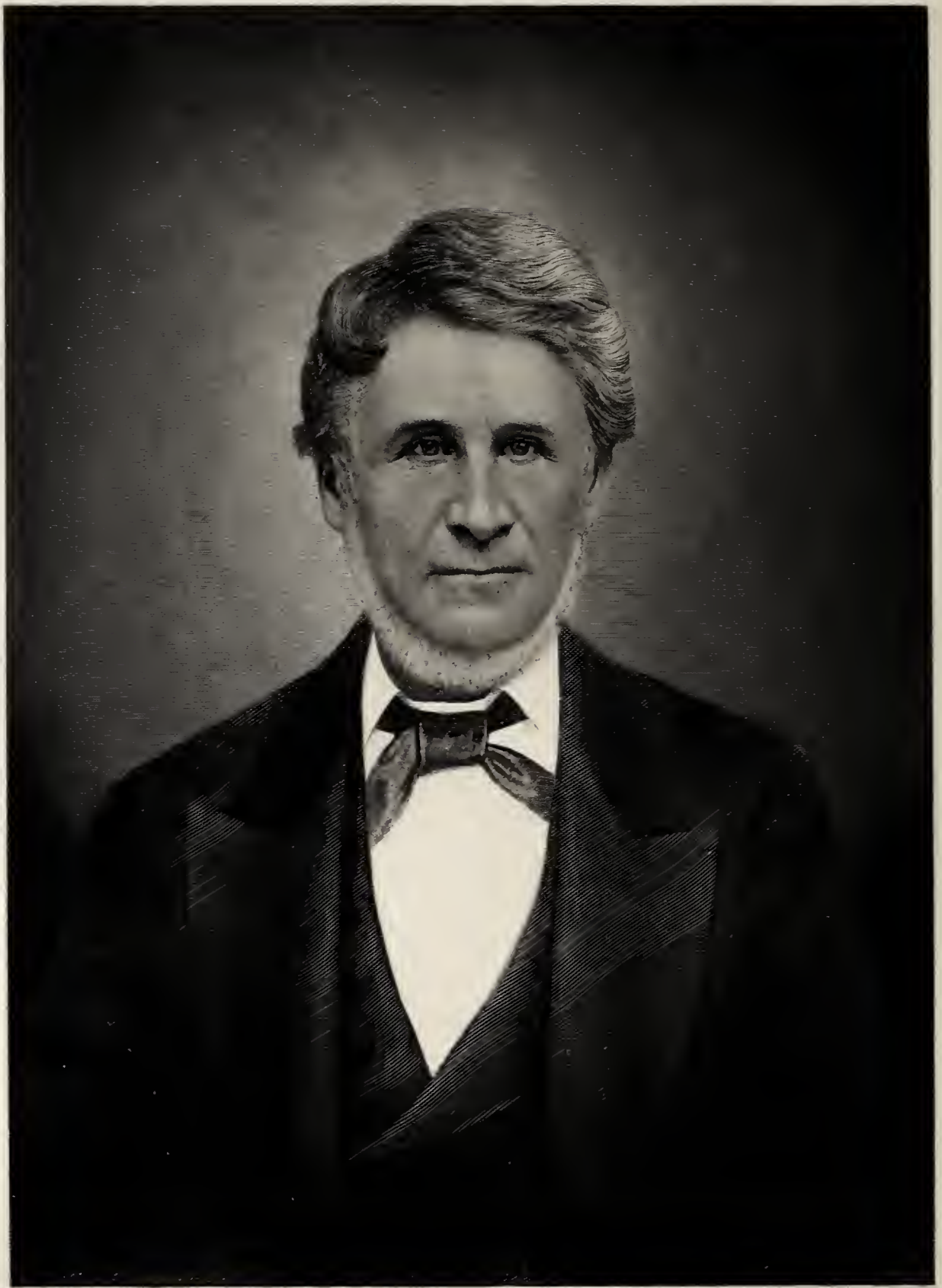
Soon after the state was admitted to the Union in 1818, Pope was appointed a United States judge in the new state. Cook resigned his office as judge and was elected to congress in 1820; thus they practically exchanged places with each other. Both men had sons who bore the first name of John. John Pope became a major-general in the Civil war, and John Cook also attained the same rank.

Nathaniel Pope died January 23, 1850, in St. Louis, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lueretia Yeatman, at the age of sixty-six years.









*Benjamin L. Smith*

## Benjamin Lord Smith



IT IS seldom that one attains to the venerable age that was reached by Benjamin Lord Smith and to few indeed is accorded the privilege of traveling life's journey with the companion of their selection for sixty-four years. Such, however, was the record of Benjamin Lord Smith, who was ninety-three years of age at the time of his demise. He held positions of public trust in Bureau county and was connected at different times with mercantile pursuits in Princeton and agricultural pursuits in the surrounding district, and his judicious investments in real estate at length brought him to an enviable position among the substantial citizens. He was, moreover, one of the pioneer residents of Princeton, taking up his abode here when the little hamlet which was later to develop into a prosperous and populous city contained but seven houses.

Mr. Smith was a native son of New York, his birth having occurred on a farm near Utica, September 15, 1806. His father, Benjamin Smith, was born in New York, July 18, 1769, and throughout his entire life carried on farming, following that occupation to the time of his death on the 11th of July, 1816. He was married twice. He first wedded Abigail Platt, who died in New York, June 20, 1805, and he afterward married Abigail Cooper Lord, who was also born in that state and who survived him for about seventeen years, passing away May 1, 1833.

The usual experiences of the farm lad fell to the lot of Benjamin Lord Smith, who early became familiar with the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. As opportunity offered he attended the country schools in the vicinity of his father's home.

Through the period of his youth and early manhood Mr. Smith suffered more or less from ill health and, believing that a change of climate might prove beneficial he started for the west, traveling by wagon from New York to Illinois. He camped out along the way at night and traversed mile after mile in certain districts without coming to a habitation. When four weeks had elapsed he reached Illinois and visited several of the counties in the central portion of the state. Pleased with the natural advantages of Bureau

county and its opportunities he decided to remain there and in the fall of 1835 took up his permanent abode within its borders. The Black Hawk war had occurred only three years before and there were many evidences of Indian occupancy in this state. Central and northern Illinois were but sparsely settled, there being great, broad stretches of unbroken prairie with uncut timber tracts along the streams. The state, rich in its natural resources, awaited the transforming touch of enterprising men before it bloomed and blossomed as the rose. The little village of Princeton as previously stated contained but seven houses and Mr. Smith became one of the first merchants of the town, opening a dry-goods store soon after his arrival. In 1836 he went east and was married, setting out on his return journey to his new home one day after his marriage, and reaching Princeton with his young bride in safety. Later he purchased a farm a short distance east of Princeton and hauled lumber from Chicago in order to build a house thereon. He then took up the task of breaking the sod and developing the fields. For ten years he devoted his time and attention untiringly to general agricultural pursuits but found the arduous duties of farm life too great a drain upon his health and he once more established his home in the city. Not long afterward he was chosen by popular suffrage to the office of county clerk of Bureau county and by reelection was continued therein for eight years, discharging his duties in the most prompt and capable manner. As the years passed on he prospered in his business undertakings, which were largely represented in investment in land. He purchased at a low rate during the early period of the county's development and as the country became thickly settled the land rose in value and brought to him good returns, so that he was able to leave his family in comfortable financial circumstances.

On the 15th of September, 1836, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Catherine Seeley, who was born in New York, March 26, 1816. They became the parents of four children: Caroline L., born April 7, 1839, died August 13, 1843. Laura Ann, born February 25, 1842, remained at home with her parents and cared for them in their old age. She still resides in Princeton and owns one of the fine residences of the city. Nathan, born August 5, 1843, died February 26, 1844. Selby L., born July 15, 1847, is president of the State Bank of Princeton.

Mr. Smith was always a stanch democrat in politics, unswerving in his allegiance to the party, but in the discharge of his official duties always placed the public welfare before partisanship and the good of the community at large before self-aggrandizement. He stood at all times for progress and improvement and was ready to aid and cooper-

ate in any measure for the general good. He continued a resident of Princeton until his death, on the 23d of August, 1900, when he was almost ninety-four years of age. His wife survived him for about four years, passing away July 10, 1904, at the age of eighty-eight years. For sixty-four years they had lived together as man and wife and theirs was a most happy marriage relation, the years bringing them contentment as well as prosperity, for their mutual love and confidence increased as time went on. A contemporary biographer said of Mr. Smith: "He was a man of high ideals as exemplified in his straightforward business career as well as in his relations with his fellowmen, and wherever known he was held in the highest esteem. As a pioneer resident and representative citizen he was widely and favorably known in the county and his name should be inscribed among those who were the founders and promoters of her best interests in an early day." No history of Bureau county would be complete without extended mention of Mr. Smith as one of her pioneer settlers and business men, for he left the impress of his individuality upon the early period of the county and was connected with its growth and progress as the years went by.





## Orville H. Browning



LIKE many of the men prominent in Illinois history Orville Hickman Browning was born in Kentucky, and came to this state in 1831 at the age of twenty-one, where he was admitted to the bar. He served in the Black Hawk war of 1832, was a member of the state senate from 1836 to 1840, and of the house from 1840 to 1843. He was a delegate to the republican national convention in 1860, and was appointed by Governor Yates in 1861 to fill the unexpired term of Senator Douglas in the United States senate. In 1866 he became secretary of the interior in the cabinet of President Andrew Johnson, also for a time discharging the duties of attorney-general. Returning to Illinois, he was elected a member of the constitutional convention of 1869-70, which was his last participation in public affairs, his time thereafter being devoted to his profession. He died at Quincy, August 10, 1881.

Referring to the legislature of 1836, Abram W. Snyder in his history says that, "no previous general assembly of our state, and very few since, have comprised such an array of brainy, talented men, or as many who subsequently gained such eminence in the annals of the state and nation." Among this number was O. H. Browning. Early in his career he became a friend of Abraham Lincoln, and always could be depended upon to take an active part in the various movements which eventually led up to the formation of the republican party. Mrs. Logan writing of him in later years said that he "was a ponderous sort of man but one who wielded great influence," a man in short who evidently did more thinking than talking. U. F. Linder said of him, "In all the posts Mr. Browning has filled he has done so with great honor to himself and benefit to his country."

When in 1854 there was a gathering in Chicago of prominent state politicians, including democrats and whigs who were opposed to the course of Stephen A. Douglas in the senate, held at the Tremont House, there were present Abraham Lincoln, Lyman Trumbull, Mark Skinner, Orville H. Browning, John E. Stewart, David Davis, Norman B. Judd, J. Young Seammon, Francis C. Sherman, and others equally well known. Those present pledged themselves to the support of an "Anti-Nebraska party,"

and appointed a committee to agitate the subject. This led to the fusion of sentiment that revolutionized the politics of the state.

Again in 1856, when a state convention of the new republican party was held at Bloomington, Mr. Browning was there as a delegate. The country was almost in a state of frenzy over the troubles in Kansas. The newspapers were teeming with accounts of the attack on Sumner in the United States senate by Brooks. This convention adopted a platform ringing with strong Anti-Nebraska sentiments, and "then and there," says Herndon, "gave the republican party its official christening." It was at this convention that Mr. Lincoln made an address which had such a profound effect upon his listeners that the newspaper men in attendance totally forgot to take notes, and the address was afterward referred to as the "Lost Speech."

When the national convention of the republican party assembled in the wigwam at Chicago, in May 1860, Browning was there as a delegate. Some of the Illinois men who were present there with him, were, David Davis, Elihu B. Washburne, John M. Palmer, Richard J. Oglesby, Clark E. Carr, Burton C. Cook, Norman B. Judd, Leonard Swett, and many others. Browning could always be relied upon to make one of the advance guard in the cause these men had adopted.

In the preparation of his first inaugural address President Lincoln took counsel of his old friend Browning, and modified portions of it as he suggested. In the original copy of the address Mr. Lincoln wrote, "All the power at my disposal will be used to reclaim the public property and places which have fallen; to hold, occupy, and possess these, and all other property and places belonging to the government." At the suggestion of Mr. Browning Lincoln dropped the words "to reclaim the public property and places which have fallen."

It will be remembered that Edward D. Baker, a former Illinois politician, was a member of the United States senate from Oregon at the beginning of the Civil war. Baker left the senatorial forum for the field and was killed at the battle of Ball's Bluff in October, 1861. Browning was at that time one of the senators from Illinois and made a speech of eulogy. "Baker," said he, "to a greater extent than most men, combined the force and severity of logic, with grace, fancy and eloquence, filling at the bar, at the same time the character of the astute and profound lawyer, and of the able, eloquent and successful advocate; and in the senate, the wise, prudent and discreet statesman was combined with the chaste, classic, brilliant and persuasive orator. He was not only a lawyer, an orator, a statesman and a

soldier, but he was also a poet, and at times spoke and acted under high poetic inspiration."

Browning received a classical education in his native state of Kentucky before his removal to Illinois. "To Orville H. Browning of Quincy, who had made an exhaustive study of the subject," says Mather, "belongs the honor of inaugurating a movement to establish an asylum for the education of the Deaf and Dumb. The school was located at Jacksonville, and opened on January 26, 1846, with only four pupils. As the work of the school became known its numbers rapidly increased, until at the present time it is the largest school of the kind in the world."









## Ulysses Simpson Grant



ALTHOUGH usually accounted a "Son of Illinois," because of his residence in this state at the beginning of the Civil war, and whence he entered the service of the army, General Grant actually resided in the state but eleven months. When the war broke out General Grant was a resident of Galena engaged in business, having resigned his commission in the army some years before. He was a graduate of West Point and during a portion of his service he was stationed on the Pacific coast, and intended to take up his residence there permanently when he left the army.

General Grant was born in Point Pleasant, Ohio, on April 27, 1822; graduated from West Point in 1843, and served through the Mexican war. Grant's account of that war may be found contained in several chapters of his "Memoirs." In 1854, Grant resigned from the army and entered into business at St. Louis, part of the time carrying on a farm near that city. In May, 1860, he removed with his family to Galena, Illinois, and took a position in his father's store.

"During the eleven months that I lived in Galena," writes Grant in his "Memoirs," "prior to the first call for volunteers, I had been strictly attentive to business, and had made but few acquaintances other than customers and people engaged in the same line of business with myself. When the election took place in November, 1860, I had not been a resident of Illinois long enough to gain citizenship, and could not, therefore, vote. I was really glad of this at the time, for my pledges would have compelled me to vote for Stephen A. Douglas, who had no possible chance of election. The contest was really between Mr. Breckenridge and Mr. Lincoln; between minority rule and rule by the majority. I wanted, as between these candidates, to see Mr. Lincoln elected.

"Excitement ran high during the canvass, and torch-light processions enlivened the scene in the generally quiet streets of Galena many nights during the campaign. I did not parade with either party, but occasionally met with the 'Wide Awakes'—Republicans—in their rooms, and superintended their drill. It was evident, from the time of the Chicago nomination to the close of the canvass, that the

election of the Republican candidate would be the signal for some of the Southern states to secede. I still had hopes that the four years which had elapsed since the first nomination of a presidential candidate by a party distinctly opposed to slavery extension, had given time for the extreme pro-slavery sentiment to cool down; for the Southerners to think well before they took the awful leap which they had so vehemently threatened. But I was mistaken."

When Fort Sumter was fired on, April 12, 1861, the news created great excitement in the city of Grant's residence, and soon after, the call for seventy-five thousand volunteers was made by President Lincoln. A meeting was called and Grant presided over the meeting on that occasion, for although a comparative stranger in the city he was known to have been a former army officer and had seen service. E. B. Washburne, with whom Grant had no acquaintance at that time, came in and made a patriotic speech. A company was raised and Grant was asked to be captain, but declined, saying, however, that he would aid the company in every way he could, and would be found in the service in some position if there should be a war. In fact, he accompanied the men to Springfield and remained with them until they were regularly mustered into service.

At Springfield Grant served on Governor Yates' staff for a time, but was soon appointed colonel of the Twenty-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. This was the beginning of Grant's official military life in the Civil war, a beginning that had a glorious ending within four years when he stood at the head of all the armies of the Union, and had conquered every foe in the field. The history of Grant's military career covers too large a page to be given here in even an abridged form. It is well known to every intelligent reader.

After the war General Grant, for he now held the full title of "General," created for him by act of congress, served as secretary of war, "ad interim," during the administration of President Johnson. In 1868, he was elected president of the United States, and again in 1872. He never returned to Illinois as a resident, his later life having been spent in New York city. During 1877, and parts of the two following years, General Grant made a tour of the world, and was received everywhere with the highest honors. He died at Mount McGregor, New York, on July 23, 1885. His tomb, overlooking the Hudson river, is one of the most conspicuous objects on Riverside Heights in New York city. A writer in the "Encyclopedia Britannica," says of him, "Altogether, in spite of some shortcomings, Grant was a massive, noble and lovable personality, well fit to be remembered as one of the heroes of a great nation."

## George Pliny Brown



EDUCATOR, philosopher, logician and above all a Christian man of kindly spirit, actuated in all that he did by an earnest desire to make his life of service to his fellowmen and a feature in the betterment of the world, Bloomington has never lost a citizen more deeply or widely mourned than George Pliny Brown.

Of him one wrote: "His fearlessness in the cause of right, his great intelligence and wisdom, his kind-heartedness, his devotion to the public good and his deep interest in education made him a friend in whose companionship my own life deepened and widened." Such an opinion was held by all who knew him and it would be impossible to measure the influence of his life—an influence that will live on in constantly broadening circles of usefulness in the lives of those with whom he came in contact.

Professor Brown was born November 10, 1836, in Lenox, Ashtabula county, Ohio, and died on the 1st of February, 1910, his remains being interred in the Bloomington cemetery. His parents were William Pliny and Rachel H. (Piper) Brown. Something of their own culture and their interests in the better things of life is indicated by the opportunities they gave their son who supplemented his public-school course by study in the Grand River Institute at Austinburg, Ohio, from which he was graduated at the age of eighteen years. Immediately afterward he took up the profession of teaching and not long afterward he established a home of his own in his marriage, in Camden, New York, on the 30th of October, 1855, to Miss Mary Louise Seymour. In his educational activities he made constant advancement. The exercise of effort called forth his ability, which was of a high character, and his powers constantly developed. He acted as superintendent of schools in Richmond, Indiana, from 1860 until 1871, and in the latter year became principal of the high school at Indianapolis, in which position he remained until 1874. He was then called to the superintendency of the Indianapolis schools and greatly promoted their interests and scope during his five years' connection with that responsible position. He left to accept the presidency of the State Normal School at Terre Haute, Indiana, where he remained until 1886, when he came to Bloomington. He then retired from the

field of teaching but, as some believed, only to enter a still broader field in touch with a greater number as a publisher and writer. He came to Bloomington and purchased the Illinois School Journal from John W. Cook. This he published under the name of the Public Journal and after twelve volumes were issued under that title changed the name to School and Home Education. In 1889 he organized the Public School Publishing Company of which he was president until his death. He brought out a series of reading books for the public schools and other publications which have had direct and important bearing upon the progress and improvement of the educational systems of the country. He was a life member of the National Educational Association and a member of the National Council of Education from its organization. He also belonged to the American Academy for the Advancement of Science, the Social Science Association, the Religious Educational Association and was the author of Elements of English Grammar, published in 1899; A Story of Our English Grandfathers, in 1902; and The King and His Wonderful Castle, in 1903. The breadth of his mind was wonderful. All through his life he was a frequent contributor to the press, writing not only upon education but upon many themes. While he was a logician he also had keen imagination and his flights of fancy took on poetical and classical form. When meeting him and conversing with him for any length of time one could not but realize how broad were his interests, how deep and sound his information. He came to rank with the nation's greatest educators not only in the instruction of the young but in the instruction of the adult through his editorials and other writings which discussed themes of widespread interest. The name of George Pliny Brown became a household word among educators, thinkers and men of letters throughout the country.

Seen in his home life Professor Brown was the ideal husband and father. He could throw aside the greatest problems to enter into the interests of his children in their youth and he became friend and counselor as the years went by. His family numbered four sons: Charles C., who is married and lives in Indianapolis where he is a consulting engineer and editor of Municipal Engineering; Ralph A., who is married and makes his home in Guthrie, Oklahoma, where he is practicing the profession of medicine and also acting as editor of the Oklahoma Odd Fellow; George A., who married but lost his wife and now lives with his mother while occupying the position of president and managing editor of the Public School Publishing Company; and Walter S., the youngest, who is married and lives at Diamond Springs, Kansas, where he is engaged in farming.

No better or higher estimate of the character of George Pliny Brown could be given than in the opinions of his friends spoken while he was yet an active factor of the world's work and after his demise. William Hawley Smith said of him: "George P. Brown was at once both God's and nature's own. He was equally religious and scientific and both in supreme degree. He was also both logical and loving—a rare combination, and I am in doubt which of these qualities to mention first. To those who knew him at arm's length his logical ability seemed to lead; but for those who saw behind the scenes (under the veil of his natural modesty), his human heart stood before all. He was one of the bravest men I ever knew. Let him once be sure that the cause he enjoined was right, nothing could turn him aside from doing all in his power to further it. The word 'politic' was not only a stranger to his vocabulary but to all his deeds and thoughts. All who knew him can cite innumerable instances from the record to verify this statement. And yet, with all zeal for what he put himself behind he was always mindful of his opponents. It was not men but measures that he went up against. One of the finest proofs of this is seen in one of the last editorials he ever wrote, 'Democracy or Plutocracy, Which?' in the February number of this magazine. In that article he fires a broadside of solid shot against entrenched 'interests;' yet how delicately, respectfully, he treats the president withal. He warns without threatening; makes a straight statement regarding the fears of the people that Mr. Taft may suffer wrong to be done in the name of precedent and technicality; but all, as kindly as a father might reason with a son whom he loved more than his own life. I clipped that editorial and sent it to our congressman and advised him to have a reprint of it made and a copy furnished to every official in Washington, especially the president, the members of the senate and house and the judges of the supreme court! It is as classic, as simple in form and directness as Lincoln's Gettysburg address, and as solid in content as the Declaration of Independence. Well might it stand for his monument for it embodies every great characteristic of its author, it reveals the man in its every line! Another pronounced characteristic of Mr. Brown's was his just estimate of both the past and the present and his desire to weld the two together so that the combination might best serve humanity, here and now. The efforts of his life were:

'Not to create and found only

But to bring, perhaps from afar, what was already founded;

To give it our own identity, average, limitless, free;

To fill the gross and torpid bulk with vital religion fine!"

"How well he did all this the deeds that live after him testify. A life like his leads to the fullest hope of immortality. Those who have seen him in the past few years have noted how rapidly his material body was going to pieces. But, in spite of this, we always saw his spirit growing more and more! Is it not believable that that part of him which thus withstood physical decay survives even the shock of dissolution?" David Felmley expresses his regard for Mr. Brown and his life work as follows: "George P. Brown belonged to a group of school men that is fast passing off the stage—a group of which Dr. W. T. Harris, late United States commissioner of education was the leader. Their influence upon the American public school of the last thirty years has been deep and pervasive. Mr. Brown had been selected to prepare the leading paper for the service in memory of Dr. Harris to be held at the Indianapolis meeting of the department of superintendence of the National Educational Association next month. The educational philosophy of this group was of German origin, the philosophy of Hegel and his disciples. He greatly enjoyed metaphysical discussion and for some years after his first coming to Bloomington there assembled weekly at his home a group of younger men to read some philosophical treatise and listen to his masterly exposition. In this exposition he was simple, clear and singularly patient when questions of especial difficulty arose. Although in his later years Mr. Brown had retired from active school work he was to the end a constant attendant at educational conventions and in touch with current educational discussions. As a thinker and writer he was held in the highest esteem by the foremost school men of the day. His power of analysis, the lucidity of his style, the disinterested spirit that ran through all that he wrote attracted all seekers after the truth whether his theme was religious, political or educational." John W. Cook, of the Northern Illinois Normal School, wrote: "The wires have flashed through the night few messages freighted with profounder sorrow than that which told of the passing of George P. Brown. For nearly two score years he has been recognized as one of the small number of genuinely great leaders of educational thought and practice in this country. Previous to his selection of Bloomington as his home he resided in Indiana where as superintendent of the city schools of Indianapolis and as president of the famous State Normal School at Terre Haute he had won national recognition. Upon his retirement from school administration he entered upon the editing and publishing of the well known magazine which has made his name familiar to the school people of America and at the same time has given him an organ for the propagation of his educational ideas. Like his close

friend, the lamented William Torrey Harris, whom he followed so closely into the great unknown, he was first of all a philosopher; unlike Dr. Harris, he was not the propagandist of any elaborated system of philosophic thought. His mind was too independent and original to submit to the leadership of another and he always worked in his own harness, changing it to meet the necessity of his ever widening intelligence. But he was the most simple-hearted and sincere of men and would break camp at a moment's notice when the larger thought convinced him of the error of a position. He had all the open-mindedness of youth, for routine had never chilled the wonder spirit nor dampened his enthusiasm for truth; but he was no close philosopher. He loved to gather a congenial group of learners about him and aid them in his simple way as they pushed against the profoundest mystery of life and destiny. He was the ideal teacher. He had no brief for this school of thought or that but with the rarest catholicity of spirit he set the problems in their places and threw the clear white light of his illuminating mind upon them. The gratitude and love of those who are proud to call themselves his pupils follow him wherever he may fare. But he was as well in touch with all of the problems of the modern world of affairs, the readers of the *Pantagraph* need not be told of his deep interest in the welfare of his fellows. Anything that could make or mar a truly greater Bloomington caught his eye. Now urging a clearer comprehension of some vital truth that relates to finer living, he was again as urgent in his advocacy of better material utilities for the many. He was absolutely fearless in his expression of his opinion and he was as firm as fearless. To those who were privileged to know him in the fashion that one friend really knows another his untimely going brings poignant sorrow. The gentleness and sweet sincerity of his spirit were all that one could wish. Forever and forever he declared that the world is in the hands of a self-conscious personality whose name is love. Let us hope that his freed spirit sees the full realization of all that he so bravely championed."

In Bloomington where the last twenty-two years of his life were passed, it seemed that everyone knew and honored him and regarded it as a privilege to call him friend. J. K. Stableton, of the Bloomington schools, wrote: "To none did the announcement of the death of Mr. George Brown come with a greater sense of loss than to the teachers of Bloomington. For a number of years past he had been so intimately associated with us, visiting our schools, often taking part in the recitations, meeting with us in our teachers' meetings and for four years meeting with a large number of us once every two weeks

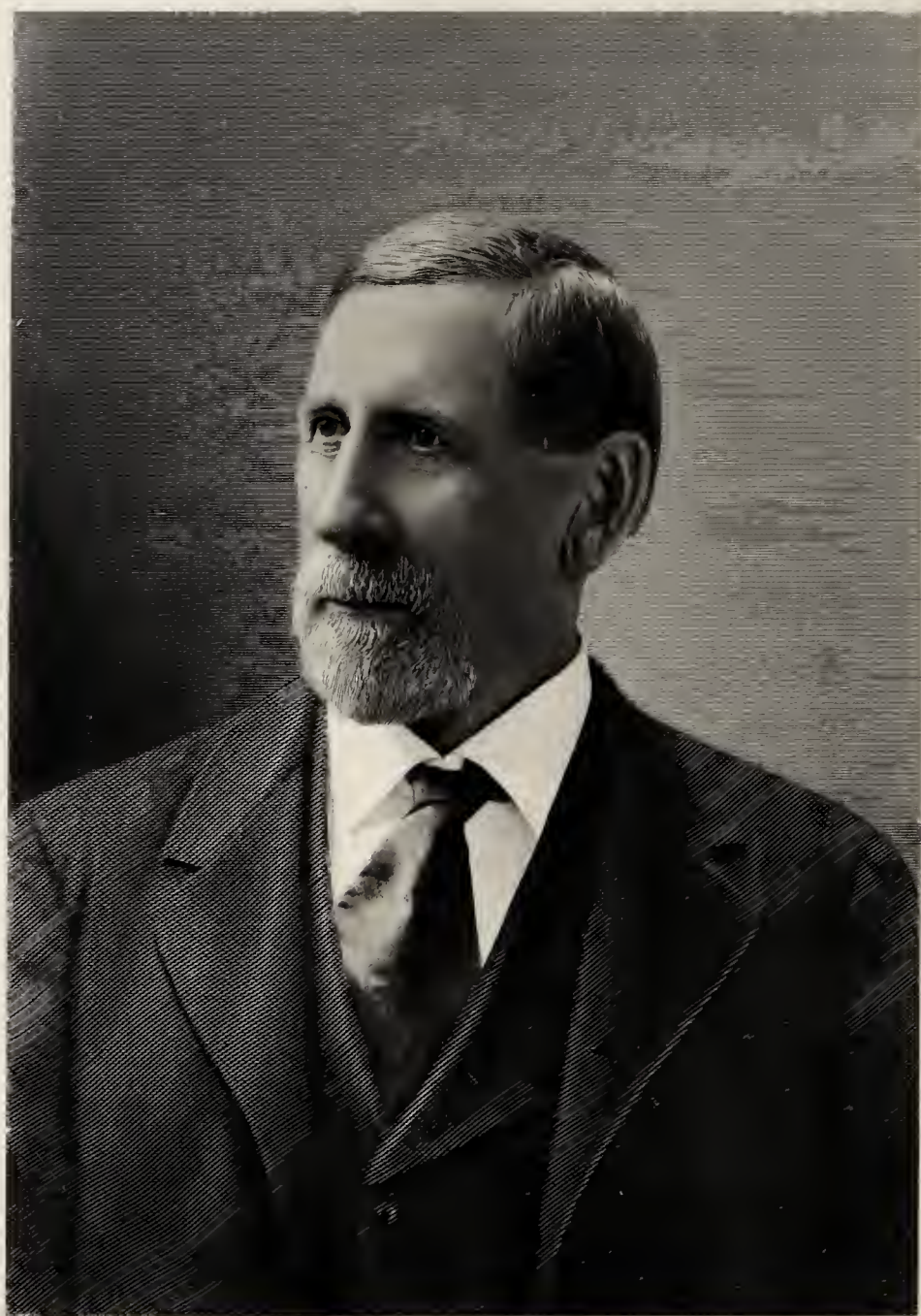
to instruct us, that he had become in a very tender sense the friend of every teacher. Many school people in all parts of the country know him and have felt the wonderful power of his written word; but we knew him face to face. We knew the great, kind heart that moved the man whose intellect searched far beyond the 'ken' of ordinary men. And while we admired his great intellect and felt it a rare privilege to listen to his teachings, we loved the kind heart, the sympathetic friend. Mr. Brown knew well the work we teachers are trying to do; he knew its strength and its weakness, and was as free to tell us of the one as the other. We all recognized him as one justly entitled to criticise for we felt that his criticisms were given that the work might take on higher qualities and that his words were always the words of a friend. But he was most of all an inspiration to us. He helped us to see the dignity of our work; he helped us to understand the meaning of education. The educational world has lost one of its greatest teachers, but we teachers of Bloomington feel that we have lost not only a great teacher but a true-hearted friend. May I add one word that is personal. I count it one of the privileges of my life that I have for nine years been permitted to know Mr. Brown as an intimate friend. When I came to Bloomington he said to me that he would enjoy being in close touch with me and my work, that the school work of his own community was of vital interest to him. The friendship thus begun has strengthened with each succeeding year and it has been a friendship full of blessing. We have had much in common and I have sat as a learner at his feet. He taught me much and was always an inspiration in all that I tried to do. As we have talked of the newer education as based on evolution, again and again, he has said, 'but we must not forget that it is not a purposeless evolution, that back of all is the great personality. This is God's way of bringing things to pass.' As teachers and officers of the Bloomington schools we feel that our loss is great, that we shall miss our friend who has been so alive to all the interests of our schools." Another wrote: "Were I to mention some of the more distinctive elements of Mr. Brown's personality, those that challenged our admiration most and that marked him as a rare man, an exceptionally good citizen, and a distinguished educational leader, I should name first his moral courage. No matter what the odds against him or whether business asset and good will of the many or the powerful were put in jeopardy, whenever he believed that truth and justice were in need of a champion he stepped forth, a big mark for every assailant, a grand old hero in the noble, modern sense of that term. He possessed high intelligence and a well trained mind. He was a profound thinker, always seeking

fundamental and eternal principles for the basis of his thinking and for the ultimate guidance of conduct and institutional processes. He was a heroic worker—not tireless but working on even when tired. Our admiration is tinged with pathos when we think of how Mr. Brown took up the Herculean task of making good the great loss he met with in the fire of 1900. With body stricken and full of pain, but with good cheer and indomitable will, he took up his pen and produced book after book, all of which were valuable contributions to the service of education and met with a deserved popular reception. But even while these greater creative projects were proceeding he kept up a running fire in every direction wherever folly, error, or corruption appeared in public administration or economic relations. Another trait that marks the meaning and worth of Mr. Brown's personality is the high and strong character of his citizenship. He allied himself promptly with every movement for the betterment of his community and was often the inspirer and organizer of such movements. He was both a patron and a pillar for maintaining the higher esthetic, religious and intellectual life of the community. Mr. Brown's gracious sociability added completeness and beauty to his personality. His courtesy was never-failing, whether his relation was that of friend or of opponent."









WILLIAM A. DENNIS

## William A. Dennis



SUCCESS came to William A. Dennis of Decatur as the result of unfaltering industry, unabating energy and careful management, so that in the later years of his life he was able to live retired. Decatur numbered him among her prominent citizens not only because of the success he achieved but because of the active and helpful part which he took in promoting her interest and welfare. He became identified with the city in 1856 and here remained practically up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 4th of April, 1912, in Oklahoma, while there looking after his interests. His residence in this city therefore covered about fifty-six years save for a brief interval spent in the west.

Mr. Dennis was born in Lancaster, Ohio, August 11, 1840, a son of Andrew and Matilda Dennis. The father died when William A. Dennis was but three years of age. His educational opportunities were very limited but he was fond of reading and through the perusal of books, as well as through experience and observation, he continually promoted his knowledge and became a well informed man. He was a youth of sixteen when he came to Decatur in 1856 and for an extended period he was active in the business affairs of the city, becoming well known as a contractor and later conducting a hardware store for several years. His operations won him a substantial measure of success and his prosperity was further augmented through his judicious investments in property.

On December 27, 1866, Mr. Dennis was united in marriage to Miss Emma Harris, of Decatur, and of their children four are yet living: Miss Kate R. Dennis, who is connected with the Gastman school; and Emma, Ray H. and Mrs. A. G. Early, all living in Decatur. The wife and mother died March 6, 1902, and was survived for a decade by her husband.

Prior to his marriage Mr. Dennis had served as a soldier of the Civil war. He was a member of Company B, Eighth Illinois Infantry, enlisting from Decatur. With his command he went to the front for three months' service making a creditable military record, and incurring a fracture of his leg at Cairo while on duty. He afterward became a member of Dunham Post, No. 141, G. A. R., with which

he was connected for an extended period. He greatly enjoyed meeting with his old army comrades and by them was held in the highest regard. Mr. Dennis was also prominent in political circles in Decatur for many years and was recognized as one of the active working members of the democratic party, which elected him to the office of alderman from the fourth ward during the term of Mayor L. L. Haworth in 1879. He again served under the administration of Mayor H. W. Waggoner in 1880. Developing the love of music with which nature had endowed him, he became one of the charter members of the Goodman Band, being one of the original fourteen who organized, what was then known as the Decatur Silver Band, in 1860. He continued as a member of that organization until it became the Goodman Band ten years later. The only interruption to Mr. Dennis' continued residence in Decatur came in the latter part of the '80s, when he removed to Concordia, Kansas. There he engaged in business as a contractor and was also prominent in the municipal affairs, serving as street superintendent and as a member of the board of education. In 1893 he returned to this city and retired from business save for the supervision which he afterward gave to his property interests. His death occurred in Guyman, Oklahoma, whither he had gone to superintend his farming interests. As the news of his demise spread through Decatur it carried with it great regret and sorrow, for he was widely and favorably known and his many friends were indeed loath to say the parting word. Since coming to Decatur as a young man he had been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Here he also held membership in the First Methodist Episcopal church and took a very active and helpful part in its work. His life was indeed actuated by high and manly principles which had their root in his Christian faith, making him charitable in his opinions, kindly in spirit and generous in action. His sterling qualities were such as ever commanded for him the respect, confidence and goodwill of all with whom he came in contact and as the years passed he became more firmly entrenched in the affection of those who knew him. To his family he was devoted, displaying the traits of the ideal husband and father, his first interest ever being for the loved ones of his own household.

## Paul Selby



THE history of the republican party in Illinois is closely associated with the name of Paul Selby, who for a great part of his active life was editor of newspapers published in different cities of the state. Mr. Selby was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, July 20, 1825; removed to Iowa with his parents in 1837, and at the age of nineteen went to southern Illinois, where he spent four years teaching, chiefly in Madison county. In 1848, he became a student at Illinois College at Jacksonville, but left the institution before finishing his course to assume the editorship of "The Morgan Journal," in the same city. He remained with this paper until the fall of 1858, covering the period of the organization of the republican party, in which he took an active part.

While editor of the "Journal" Mr. Selby proposed through that paper an "Editorial Convention," for the purpose of devising a line of policy to be adopted by the new party then on the eve of being formed. Many other newspapers published throughout the state indorsed the suggestion thus made, and a call was issued for a meeting to be held at Decatur on February 22, 1856. Mr. Selby was made chairman of this meeting which demanded the restoration of the Missouri compromise and "the restriction of slavery to its present authorized limits," and after appointing a state central committee called a state convention to meet at Bloomington on the 29th of May following.

"There was just a round dozen of us who took part in the proceedings at the Editorial Convention," said Mr. Selby in relating an account of that affair, "though others came later and were present at the banquet given in the evening, which was presided over by Richard J. Oglesby, then a resident of Decatur." At the Bloomington convention the work of completing the organization of the new party, thenceforth called the republican party, was carried out and delegates to the national convention were chosen which met in Philadelphia in the following June where John C. Fremont was nominated for the presidency.

"In the interval between the Decatur meeting and the Bloomington Convention called for May 29th, the excitement in the country

over Kansas grew almost to a frenzy," says Miss Tarbell in her "Life of Lincoln." "The new state was in the hands of a pro-slavery mob, her governor a prisoner, her capital in ruins, her voters intimidated. The newspapers were full of accounts of the attack on Sumner in the United States senate by Brooks. One of the very men who had been expected to be a leader in the Bloomington convention, Paul Selby, was lying at home prostrated by a cowardly blow from a political opponent."

Regarding the incident just referred to Mr. Selby in recent years was reluctant to speak, though he was asked for some particulars. Mr. Selby was a quiet and reserved man, willing to avoid the expression of strong opinions, preferring to maintain an attitude of reserve or even silence upon matters relating to his personal experiences. The writer, having known Mr. Selby for many years, here wishes to pay a tribute of admiration and respect to the excellence of his character, and the thoroughness and accuracy of his historical knowledge on all matters concerning the history of the state.

The "Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois," published in 1906, is largely the work of Mr. Selby, and when we remember that the greater part of his active life was spent in the editorial conduct of the various newspapers with which he was connected it will be readily inferred that the total volume of his writings must be very great.

To resume the story of his life we find that Mr. Selby, in the fall of 1859, removed to the south where he was engaged in teaching in the state of Louisiana until the last of June, 1861. During the opening months of the Civil war he was denounced by some of his southern neighbors as an "abolitionist," then a term of reproach, and was charged with having been connected with the Underground Railroad. His conduct was investigated by the trustees of the institution of which he was the principal, who adopted a resolution declaring the charges prompted by personal hostility. However, he returned to the north with his family soon after, and entered the service of the government at Cairo, where he made the acquaintance of General Grant and other military heroes of the war.

Mr. Selby became associate editor of "The Illinois State Journal" at Springfield in 1862, and later he was connected with various other newspapers. In 1868, he assumed the editorship of "The Quincy Whig," where he continued for six years. He resumed his old place with "The State Journal" in 1874, and four years later became one of its proprietors. He was appointed postmaster at Springfield by President Hayes in 1880, in which office he remained for six years. In 1889 he sold his interest in "The State Journal" and removed to

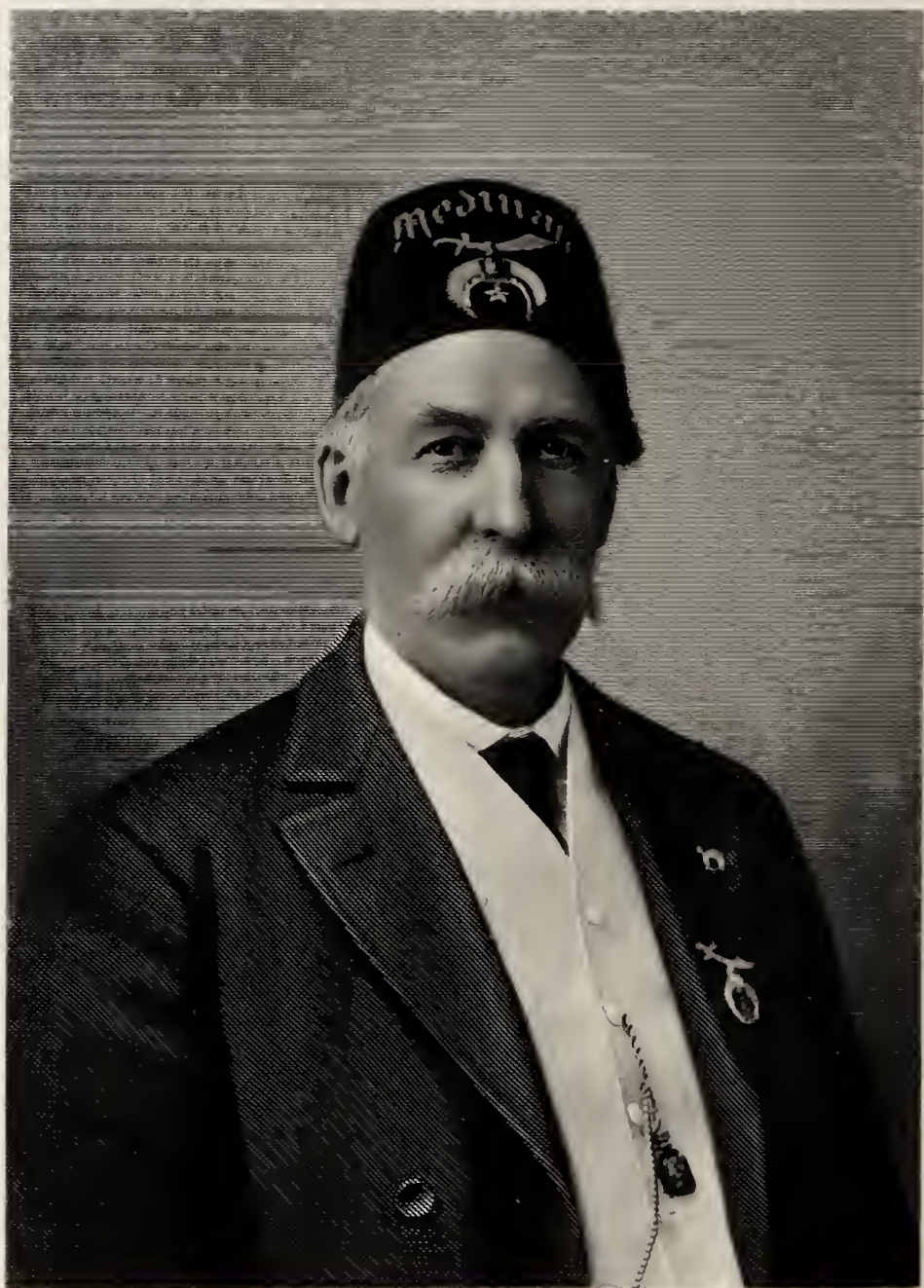
Chicago where he spent the remainder of his life, engaged in literary work especially of a historical character. Mr. Selby received the degree of Master of Arts from his alma mater in 1860. In all he spent over thirty-five years of his life in editorial work.

Paul Selby died March 19, 1913, at River Forest, near Chicago, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. His remains were taken to Springfield for burial.









MARSHALL B. VAN ARMAN

## Marshall B. Van Arman



FOR almost a quarter of a century Marshall B. Van Arman was a resident of Joliet, prominent and honored in Masonic circles, reliable, enterprising and progressive in his business connections. For a long period he engaged in carriage manufacturing in that city, controlling one of the important industries there. He was born January 11, 1853, in Canada, a son of John Van Arman, who was a native of Pennsylvania and a representative of an old Dutch family. He followed the occupation of farming in the Keystone state but afterward removed to Frankfort, Canada, where he was living at the time of the birth of his son Marshall. He continued to reside in that country until called to his final rest, and his wife also died in Canada.

Marshall B. Van Arman, who was one of a family of seven children, pursued his education in the Canadian schools and when his school days were over sought and secured employment in a woolen factory. He worked at different places and when he ceased to engage in the woolen manufacturing business he learned the trade of carriage making, becoming an expert in that line. He started for himself in the business at Brighton, Canada, about the time of his marriage and there resided until 1888, when he crossed the border into the United States. After living at several places in the west he came to Joliet on the 9th of September, 1888, and on the 1st of January, 1891, opened his carriage factory which he conducted up to the time of his death, on the 4th of February, 1912. In the intervening period covering twenty-one years he had built up a business of large and gratifying proportions. His output was noted for its excellent workmanship, fine finish and durability, while promptness and fair dealing were strong elements in the conduct of his business and in the attainment of success.

In Brighton, Canada, on the 1st of January, 1877, Mr. Van Arman was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Brooks, a daughter of Jacob Brooks, a boot and shoe merchant of Canada, who spent his entire life in that country. Mrs. Van Arman was one of six children and by her marriage became the mother of two children: Birdie, who

died when twenty years of age; and Marshall E., an architect who is following his profession in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. Van Arman was ever prominent in fraternal circles. He held membership with the Masons, the Modern Woodmen and the White Cross, and was not content to merely have his name on the membership roll but aided quietly, earnestly and effectively in the upbuilding of those organizations. He attained the Knight Templar degree in the York Rite of Masonry and also became a Noble of the Mystic Shrine. He was serving as a member of the Joliet drill team of the Knight Templars when they won the prize at Chicago and in other ways he furthered the interests of Masonry and secured the advancement of principles for which it stands. He was also a member of the First Baptist church and took active and helpful part in its work. He was, moreover, devoted to his family as few men are and every hour possible he spent with his wife and children. One of the local papers, commenting on his life, said: "He was not a man to come out and ask praise; he was satisfied with the approbation of his own conscience. An exceedingly busy man, he was known by his customers and lodge companions best, and by them he was highly esteemed for his splendid character. His cheerful manner made him many friends." Joliet had every reason to regard him as one of her valued citizens and one who contributed much to her welfare. He ever had a hand outstretched to aid his fellowmen and the spirit of brotherly kindness found exemplification in his life.

## Frances Elizabeth Willard



STATUE of Frances Willard was placed in Statuary Hall, in the capitol at Washington, in February, 1905, having been presented to the national government by the state of Illinois as one of its two representatives in that "Valhalla of the Republic." The gift was accepted by the United States senate in the form of a resolution with "the thanks of congress," in which Miss Willard was referred to as "one of the most eminent women of the United States."

Frances came of a distinguished ancestry. Major Simon Willard arrived on the "wild New England shore" in 1634, and was one of the founders of Concord, Massachusetts. Her father, Josiah Flint Willard, of the seventh generation from the one above named, became a resident of Churchville, New York, where Frances was born September 28, 1839. From there the family moved to the west settling on a farm near Janesville, Wisconsin, in 1846. In 1858 the family took up their residence in Evanston. Frances graduated from the Northwestern Female Seminary in the year following her arrival in Evanston.

After some years spent in teaching, she was chosen president of the "Evanston College for Ladies," the later name of the institution from which she had graduated. This name again was changed to that of the "Woman's College," in 1873, and became affiliated with the Northwestern University, Frances becoming the dean. She resigned, however, in 1874, and "abandoning a brilliant educational career," she entered upon the work which was to absorb her powers and energies for the remainder of her life.

In 1874, Miss Willard was elected president of the Illinois Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and thenceforth gave her whole time to the work in which it was engaged. In 1883, she projected the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union, of which she later became the president. "Under her leadership the temperance crusade," said Senator Cullom in the course of his address on the occasion of the reception and acceptance by congress of the statue of Miss Willard, "spread as if by magic throughout the United States. Not content with what she had accomplished here at home, on several

occasions she visited England and assisted the temperance movement, where she addressed immense audiences in different parts of the country."

While on this visit to England an interesting form of the temperance crusade is described in the address referred to. "The most striking and unique incident of her work was the celebrated 'Polyglot Petition for Home Protection' presented 'to the governments of the world.' It was signed throughout the civilized world, and in fifty different languages. The signatures mounted upon canvas, four columns abreast, made more than a mile of canvas and nearly five miles of signatures, seven hundred and seventy-one thousand two hundred in all.

\* \* \* It was ten years in circulation. In an eloquent and impressive speech, Miss Willard presented it to President Cleveland, February 19, 1895. The English branch was headed by Lady Henry Somerset, the magnificent English woman who is leading in temperance reform in England. On the American petition, like Abou Ben Adhem, and for the same reason, Neal Dow's name 'led all the rest'."

The late Senator Dolliver added his tribute on the occasion mentioned. "It was my fortune to hear her more than once," said he, "advocating before the people her favorite reforms. She was one of the most persuasive orators who ever spoke our tongue, and her influence, apart from the singular beauty of her character, rested upon that fine art of reaching the hearts and consciences of men which gave her a right to the leadership which she exercised for years. I remember once hearing her speak in the state of Maine, when General Harrison was a candidate, and shared in a full measure the impatience of my own party with those who, under their sense of duty, were engaged in turning our voters aside in an effort to build up an organization of their own, pledged to the prohibition of the liquor traffic in America.

"I remember that I was especially irritated because the party which Miss Willard represented was not willing to let us alone in Maine. Notwithstanding all my prejudices, I invited a friend, a hardened politician, then famous in public life, to go with me to hear Miss Willard speak. He reluctantly consented upon condition that we should take a back seat and go out when he indicated that he had had enough. For more than two hours this gifted woman, with marvelous command of language, with a delicate sense of fitness and simplicity of words, with a perfect understanding of the secret place of the human heart, moved that great multitude with a skill that belongs to genius alone, and to genius only when it is touched with live coals from the altar. And when it was all over we agreed to-

gether that in all our lives we had never witnessed a display so marvelous of intellectual and spiritual power."

That Frances Willard was gifted with eloquence to a remarkable degree many competent judges have testified. "Her greatest oratorical triumphs," said Rev. N. D. Hillis, "were in villages and cities, where some hall not holding more than a thousand people was crowded with appreciative listeners. At such times she stood forth one of the most gifted speakers of this generation, achieving efforts that were truly amazing. What ease and grace of bearing! What gentleness and strength! What pathos and sympathy! How exquisitely modulated her words! If her speech did not flow as a gulf stream; if it did not beat like an ocean upon a continent, she sent her sentences forth, an arrowy flight, and each tipped with fire."

But Frances was not alone an orator; she was an organizer as well. She often said that "alone we can do little, separated, we are the units of weakness; but aggregated, we become batteries of power. Agitate, educate, organize,—these are the deathless watchwords of success." Whittier, in his tribute, recognized this trait in her character. One of the verses of his poem written in her memory after her death was as follows:

"She knew the power of banded ill,  
But felt that love was stronger still,  
And organized for doing good,  
The World's united womanhood."

Miss Willard was the author of a little book entitled "Nineteen Beautiful Years," written when she was twenty-four years of age. It was the simple story of her sister Mary's life, who passed away at the age of nineteen years. This little volume was published in 1863, and has passed through many editions. It still enjoys a steady sale. She was also the author of a volume entitled "Glimpses of Fifty Years," filled with the accounts of her multitudinous activities, and of those associated with her in the causes she had so deeply at heart.

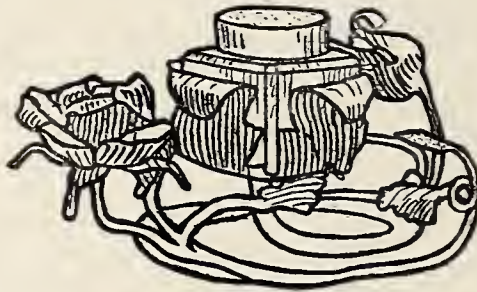
There have been a number of volumes written about Frances Willard and, including the various contributions to the press issues of every description, the literature pertaining to her and her activities has become voluminous. Her home in Evanston was known as "Rest Cottage," which is still maintained as a place of pilgrimage for the multitudes who knew her in her life.

Frances Willard died in New York city, February 18, 1898. Her remains were brought west and, after cremation, were buried in the

family lot at Rosehill cemetery. At her funeral, and at the numerous memorial assemblages held in her memory, there was a remarkable outpouring of tributes. Among those in poetical form some stanzas from a poem by Charles William Pearson may be quoted:

“Oft have we seen her on her throne of power,  
While eager multitudes enchanted hung,  
Oblivious of the swiftly passing hour,  
Chained by the Orphean magic of her tongue.

“The aged bent beneath the weight of years,  
The young in all their beauty, all their pride,  
The rich and poor, in common, shed their tears  
For she, a sister to mankind, had died.”







MELVILLE W. FULLER

## Melville W. Fuller



AMONG the men of Illinois who have risen to eminence the name of Melville W. Fuller is enrolled near the head. Coming to Chicago in 1856, he carried on the practice of his profession as a lawyer for thirty-two years, and until his appointment by President Cleveland to be chief justice of the United States supreme court in 1888.

Melville Weston Fuller was born February 11, 1833, at Augusta, Maine. He received his education at Bowdoin College, and entered upon the study of law in Bangor, and, according to the custom of the time, in the office of a practicing lawyer. During his legal studies he spent a year at the Harvard Law School, then under the direction of Joel Parker, Theophilus Parsons and Emory Washburn, excellent lawyers and great teachers.

In an address before the Chicago Bar Association, Judge Edward O. Brown said: "But though in the office and law school young Fuller had received the technical legal education, the development of which thereafter was to place his name on the roll of fame, it was his previous academic course at Bowdoin College, if we may trust his own words thirty-five years later at a commencement dinner, that the foundations of his character and general culture were firmly laid. Speaking then of his teachers at Bowdoin he said: 'They labored to ground the student in the eternal verities, which would enable him when rains descended, and winds blew, and floods came, to withstand the storm as only one can finally do whose feet are planted on that rock.'

"Well did this gentle and courageous soul—this kindly, patient, much-enduring man exemplify in after years the spirit in which he had taken his teachers' lessons. Tried by griefs which tore his heart asunder in the midst of worldly success, he faced good and ill fortune alike with heart undaunted and faith in God and his fellowmen unabated. In 1856, he had begun to practice law in his native city of Augusta. He had always a keen relish and taste for participation in public affairs, and at the outset of his career he combined with his budding practice editorial writing for a democratic newspaper, and became a member and president of the city council of Augusta.

"But the call of the west was even stronger then for eastern youths than now. Thinking perhaps of the wonderful success which twenty years before his political leader Douglas had won in the decade after his arrival in Illinois, Mr. Fuller came to Chicago before his first year at the bar had ended. He entered the office of the late S. K. Dow, a former townsman and acquaintance, at a salary of six hundred dollars a year.

"The rapid and spectacular rise to eminence and power of his leader and his future close friend, Douglas, Fuller did not have, but a little more than thirty years afterward, speaking of himself to his comrades at the bar, he could say: 'It has come to pass that as the star of empire moving westward hangs fixed and resplendent above the glorious valley of the Mississippi, a member of this bar and a citizen of Chicago has been designated to the headship of the mightiest tribunal upon earth. Of that tribunal, or the grave and weighty responsibilities of that office, it does not become me now to speak, nor could I, if it were otherwise appropriate, for I am oppressed with the sadness inevitable when one after long years of battle puts his armor off and retires from the ranks of his comrades.' "

Judge Brown, in his address, spoke of the fact that at the time of his appointment Fuller was comparatively an unknown man. Concerning this he said: "If he had not sooner achieved distinction in the world of politics and statesmanship, and thus become more widely known throughout the country, it was because during his rise at the bar the political party of his choice and deep conviction was out of power in state and nation. He had been a leader and wise counsellor in that party here at home, as we who were connected with it all know; representing it in the constitutional convention of 1861, and the legislature of 1862, and becoming, in a succession of national conventions, a leading figure among its Illinois delegates. I remember in his later years his deploring to me, that because of his intense interest in securing among the declarations of the national democratic platform of 1864 one in favor of the Monroe doctrine and against the European usurpation in Mexico, he had allowed to stand without sufficient protest that pronouncement of the convention concerning the failure of the Federal arms in the Civil war, that its candidate General McClellan so promptly repudiated."

In the course of his address Judge Brown referred to Fuller's law practice while in Chicago. "It is enough to say," he continued, "that with ardor and success he devoted himself to the duties of advocate and counsel for his public and private clients, and that although offered the most important and desirable of permanent corporation

employments, he would bind himself for no continuous service to one client or set of clients, preferring the free hand and the life of the lawyer of the elder time. Through all his life he was in his profession as in other things a high-minded conservative, doing the best to make the law a noble and ennobling profession and no mere huckstering trade. Prudent and thrifty as every man ought to be, and abhorring debt, he was never mercenary, avaricious or grasping. \* \* \*

"And now we turn from the rising lawyer, the successful advocate and wise counsellor, to regard a clear-brained, simple, strong, single-hearted man, a patient, upright self-restrained, quietly dignified judge who for almost a quarter of a century filled the most exalted judicial seat of the world. He was the eighth chief justice of the United States. I do not intend to indulge in fulsome eulogy. I will not say that he equalled John Marshall in scope of intellect and keenness of appreciation of the great principles of jurisprudence, but I will say that in that great place he was no unworthy successor in the line. \* \* \* That the late chief justice or any other judge who ever sat in high place was, in the performance of his duties, always and ideally wise and great, were a vain and foolish thing to say. Chief Justice Fuller will not, either in the decisions which he formulated for his brethren or in those in which, faithful to his high convictions of duty, he dissented from the majority of the court, be adjudged always right by the new age fast driving upon us its new aspirations, and its new standards of thought and social ethics. Some of them will stand the test of time as some of those of his predecessors have done; others of his, as of theirs, as time sweeps on, will doubtless be but historical marks that show the line at which the flood then rested."

Chief Justice Fuller died on the 4th of July, 1910, at his summer home near Bar Harbor, Maine. He was seventy-seven years old at the time of his death.

Of the opportunities of such a position as that held by Chief Justice Fuller for a period of almost twenty-two years, the New York World said editorially: "To be Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court is to wield a power that no other judge in all the world wields, and the man who holds that great office for twenty or thirty years leaves his indelible seal upon the life of the nation."



## Edward Dickinson Baker



THE Mexican war of 1846 afforded an opportunity for many Illinois men of that time to win military reputations, which later aided them greatly in the pursuit of political honors. Colonel Baker, a prominent figure in that war, however, had already attained eminence before its opening, having been elected to the legislature in 1837, and to congress from the Springfield district in 1844. He resigned his seat in congress to accept the colonelcy of the Fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, which became a part of the American army in the invasion of Mexico. In that war Baker distinguished himself greatly, for when the gallant Shields fell wounded at the battle of Cerro Gordo, he instantly took command of the brigade, charged magnificently upon the enemy's guns, and helped to complete the utter route of the Mexican army.

Edward D. Baker was an Englishman by birth, having been born in London, on February 24, 1811. The family emigrated to America in 1815, settling first at Philadelphia, and afterward at Belleville, Illinois. Having completed a course of law studies and been admitted to the bar, Baker took up his residence at Springfield, where he became acquainted with Lincoln. He and Lincoln were together in the Black Hawk war, and were old comrades in the campaigns of the whig party. He was elected to the legislature and later he was sent to congress as mentioned above. After the close of the Mexican war he was again elected to congress, this time from the Galena district.

In 1852, Colonel Baker removed to California, and remained there seven years. He resided in San Francisco and devoted himself to the practice of law. He won the admiration and esteem of his associates in the profession and took a conspicuous position in the first rank of the members of the bar. Baker was described by one who knew him well in California as a man about five feet, eight inches tall, with "a good face of well cut features," careless in his dress, and in his deportment and character entirely free from the slightest show of vanity. He was one of the most eloquent speakers of his time; courts and crowds were alike captivated by his oratory. He read widely and was possessed of a retentive memory, so that the stores

of his knowledge became instantly available when addressing an audience. He had what has been described as a "clarion voice," and he spoke without notes. After the death of Senator Broderick, as the result of a duel between him and Judge Terry, Colonel Baker delivered at his funeral "one of the most magnificent orations that ever adorned the English language," said James C. Conkling, in an address before the Chicago Bar Association some years ago, while recalling some recollections of the old time lawyers and statesmen of the early times in Illinois. "For an hour or more," said Conkling, "the homage of tears was paid to Baker's genius and Broderick's memory by the vast multitude which had assembled to pay the tribute of their love and affection."

The closing portion of this oration is given below as an example of Baker's oratory: "The last word must be spoken, and the imperious mandate of death must be fulfilled. Thus, O brave heart, we lay thee to thy rest. Thus, surrounded by tens of thousands, we leave thee to the equal grave! As in life no other voice among us so rang its trumpet blast upon the ear of freemen, so in death its echoes will reverberate amidst our mountains and our valleys until truth and valor cease to appeal to the human heart. Good friend! true hero! hail and farewell!"

Baker left California and went to Oregon in 1859. There he entered into the political campaign of that year and succeeded in securing his election as United States senator from that state. In the senate he at once took a leading position in its deliberations, and especially by his eloquence and his energy he became, after Lincoln's inauguration, a strong support to his administration.

In recalling some recollections of his associates at Washington in the time of the Civil war, Isaac N. Arnold, in an address, related the particulars of a remarkable incident which took place in the United States senate in the first year of the war. "Breckenridge, you will remember," said Arnold, "was vice president and presided over the senate during the administration of Mr. Buchanan. After dividing the democratic party in 1860, and possibly preventing the election of Douglas for president, he returned to Washington at the special session of 1861, as senator from Kentucky. \* \* \*

"While the rebel troops were gathering around Washington, and the rebel flag could be seen from the dome of the capitol across the Potomac, Breckenridge made an elaborate speech in the senate, full of sympathy and encouragement for the rebels, and trying to show that the national government had no constitutional power to coerce the seceding states. To this treasonable speech Baker replied with

consummate ability. He charged Breckenridge with uttering treason and with giving aid to armed rebellion. The scene in the senate chamber on that day was as dramatic as when Cicero denounced Cataline before the conscript fathers of Rome. At length Baker turned directly toward Breckenridge, upon whom every eye was fixed, and said:

“What would have been thought if, in another capitol in an ancient republic, in a yet more martial age, a senator as grave, not more eloquent or dignified than the senator from Kentucky, yet with the Roman purple flowing over his shoulders, had arisen in his place, surrounded by all the illustrations of Roman glory, and declared that the cause of advancing Hannibal was just, and that Carthage ought to be dealt with in terms of peace? What would have been thought if, after the battle of Cannae, a senator there had risen in his place and denounced every levy of the Roman people, every expenditure of its treasure, and every appeal to the old recollections and the old glories?”

“At the close, Baker paused, and for a moment there was not a sound, not a movement; then the silence was broken by the voice of Senator Fessenden, who, in low, deep tones, thrilling with indignant feeling, said: ‘In Rome, such a senator would have been hurled from the Tarpeian Rock!’ Baker, resuming his speech, said, ‘Sir, a senator, more learned than myself, tells me, in a voice that I am glad is audible, he would have been hurled from the Tarpeian Rock.’” The tremendous effect of this scene upon the assembled senators, and upon the people of the country, will never be forgotten by those whose memories reach back to the days of the Civil war, and the incident has found a place in many of the histories of those stirring times. Soon after this Breckenridge was expelled from the senate as a traitor, by a resolution introduced by Senator Trumbull.

Baker raised a regiment of volunteers of which he was appointed colonel, having declined the offer of a commission as brigadier general. At the battle of Ball’s Bluff, fought October 21, 1861, Colonel Baker was instantly killed while gallantly leading the brigade which he commanded in that battle.

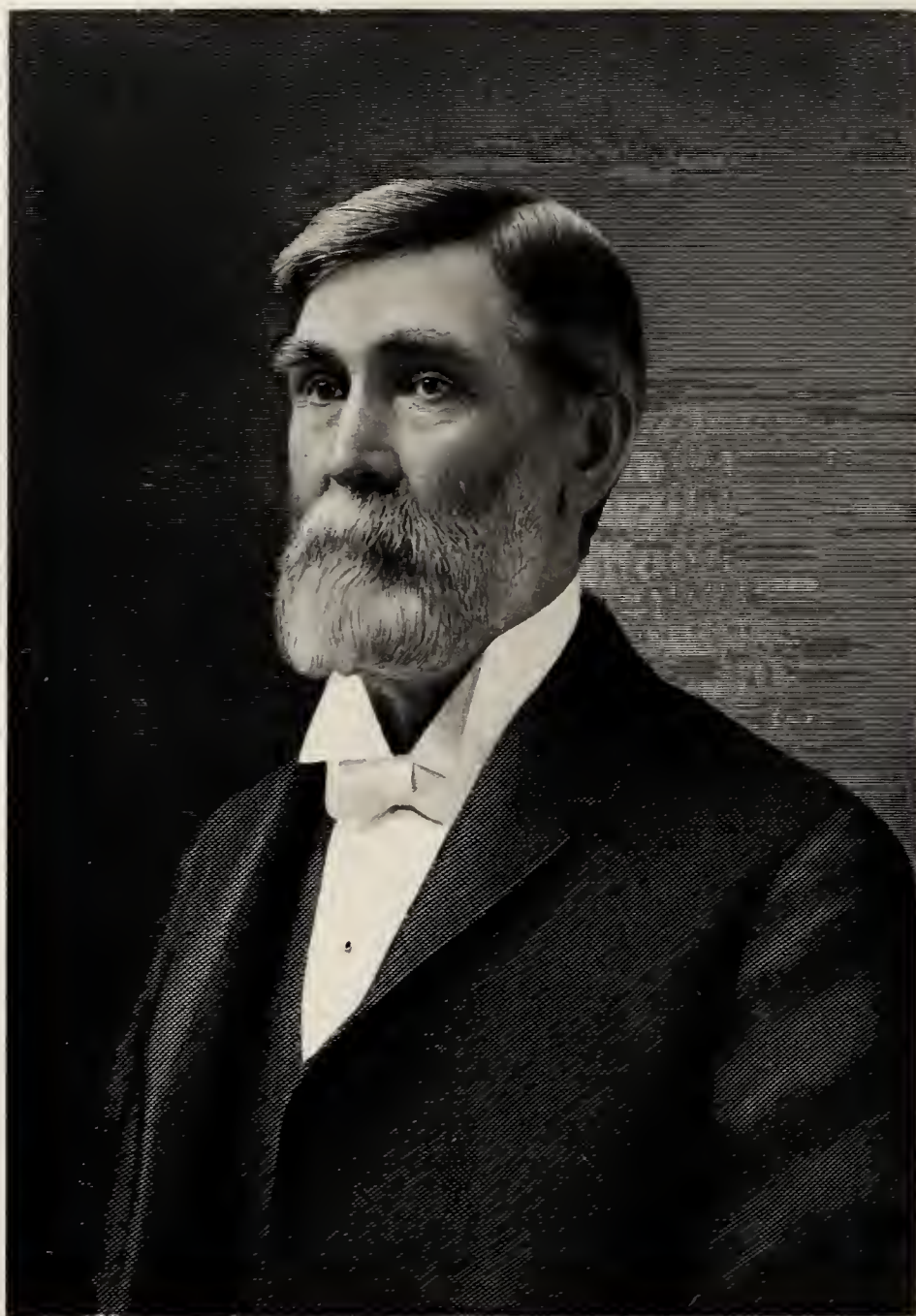
“Alike on the platform, in the courtroom, or in legislative halls, his eloquence was irresistible,” writes John Moses in his sketch of this remarkable man. “While lacking the solid learning of Hardin and the cogent reasoning powers of Lincoln, he excelled either in the rhetorical polish and classical elegance of his orations.” “Colonel Baker,” continues Moses in his sketch, “combined within himself every attribute of a great orator. Of medium height, his figure was

finely formed and well rounded. To a presence which would attract attention in any crowd, was added a voice of rare melody and compass. His speeches abounded in flashes of wit, brilliant flights of genius, and touches of deep pathos, and were delivered with an inimitable ease and grace. The ability with which he held these great powers in hand was the most remarkable feature of his mental constitution."

His enthusiastic loyalty to the Union in its hour of peril, and the self-sacrificing devotion which led to his death on a battlefield of the Civil war, calls for a tribute of admiration and deep respect for a man whose career was so honorable and which was thus gloriously terminated.








*M. F. Williamson*

## Marion F. Williamson, M. D.

HE medical profession in Joliet had a prominent, capable and honored representative in Dr. Marion F. Williamson, who for twenty-one years was a practitioner of that city. His birth occurred in Clermont county, Ohio, in 1833, being the seventh son in a large family, and after acquiring a good public school education in his native state he attended the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati, and later the Eclectic School of Medicine at that city. He then practiced in the vicinity of Cincinnati for a number of years, after which he removed to Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he opened an office and followed his profession for some time. He removed thence to Illinois in 1888, settling in Joliet, where he remained until his death on the 6th of January, 1909. It was not long before he had demonstrated his ability to cope with important and involved medical problems. Anything which tended to bring to man the key to that complex mystery which we call life was of interest to him and his reading was broad and comprehensive, so that his knowledge and efficiency were continuously advanced. He kept in touch with the work of eminent members of the profession throughout the country as a member of the Will County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He was regarded in this city as a leader of his profession nor was his reputation limited by the confines of Joliet, for he enjoyed the good-will and respect of his professional brethren throughout northern Illinois. The period of his active practice extended over fifty years or until the day of his death.

Dr. Williamson was married three times and at his death left a widow who in her maidenhood was Miss Jessie C. Dougall. Her parents were John and Margaret Dougall, natives of Scotland, where Mrs. Williamson was also born. Her father was one of the leading cotton spinners of the eastern section of that country but in 1858, thinking to find better business opportunities in the new world, he crossed the Atlantic with his family and located near New Haven, Indiana. There he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, securing a tract of land which he carefully and systematically cultivated up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1874 when he was

seventy-five years of age. He had in early life married Margaret Houstoun, a descendant of an old Renfrewshire (Scotland) family of that name. She was born in Renfrewshire and her last days were spent in Indiana. There were twelve children in the Dougall family but only five came to the United States and of these only Mrs. Williamson and her brother of Joliet are now living. Mr. Williamson had three children by a former marriage, of whom one daughter, Sallie L., is deceased, having passed away in 1890, the others being: Mrs. J. B. Munger, who has a son Lloyd Allan Munger and lives in Chicago; and Harry, who makes his home near Portland, Oregon, and has two children, Robert E. and Harry Tamasie Williamson. Mrs. Williamson had also been previously married, her first husband having been Volney Powers, a native of Jefferson county, New York, whence he removed to Indiana. He died in Nevada whither he had gone for the benefit of his health. By that marriage there were born four children, three of whom died in infancy, the surviving daughter being Margaret H., the wife of Dr. Flowers, with whom Mrs. Williamson now makes her home.

Dr. Williamson was well known as a valued member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic fraternity. He also belonged to the Presbyterian church and his life was in consistent harmony with his professions. He was a prominent citizen of Joliet, manifesting his interest in its welfare by tangible efforts for its upbuilding and progress. In his chosen profession he attained a position of leadership in his adopted city for he possessed a nature that could never be content with mediocrity and gradually he worked his way upward until his knowledge of the great scientific principles of medicine enabled him to command a practice second to none in Will county.

## Isaac Funk



HERE lies buried in the cemetery at Funk's Grove, in McLean county, a place remote from traveled ways and thronged towns, all that is mortal of Isaae Funk, whose memory it is sought to perpetuate in this sketch. Near the grounds of the cemetery there passes a still-running stream, while a magnificent forest surrounds it,—scenes which captivated his eye when he, as a young man, full of hope and energy, came this way in search of home and fortune.

Isaae Funk was born in Clark county, Kentucky, November 17, 1797. He grew up with meager educational advantages. At the age of twenty-seven, he came to Illinois, settling at a place which came to be called Funk's Grove. Here, with no other capital than industry, perseverance and integrity, he began the foundations of a fortune, which in the forty-two years of his remaining life, amounted to two millions of dollars. An unlucky venture of some kind brought Mr. Funk in debt two thousand dollars, previous to his arrival, and this debt hung over him when he came. It was not many years, however, before he returned to his former place of residence and paid the debt in full.

From Mr. Funk's marriage in 1826 dates the beginning of his remarkable career of success. He entered into a partnership with his brother Absolom, bought cattle and horses, drove them to market, going as far as Chicago to find sale for them. As the country increased in population the brothers widened their field of operations, worked hard, and eventually gained a complete monopoly in their dealings. His brother, Absolom, located in Chicago in order to look after the business at that point. The partnership was dissolved in 1841, and Isaac continued on his own hook. In those days, before railroads were built, cattle were driven to market. Funk went to Chicago sometimes with as many as fifteen hundred cattle and a thousand hogs. One winter he drove as many as six thousand hogs to Chicago and got them there in good condition.

It required skill and much practical knowledge to handle such large numbers of animals, and drive them long distances safely and without loss. In an account of these movements it is related that

“when one of the larger herds of cattle was to be moved to market, a section of it, say two or three hundred, would be started with its proper complement of men attending. Next day another section would be mobilized and started on the road, and so on until all the herd was moving. These sections or smaller droves were kept about a day’s march apart. It will be readily seen that in this manner the herd could be moved with greater safety and expedition than in a single great drove.” About two weeks was required to travel to Chicago in this way.

From the profits of his immense stock business Isaac Funk began the purchase of land on a large scale. In 1829 he bought a thousand acres, and in the next twelve years he added nearly five thousand acres. He still kept on buying, until at his death he owned twenty-five thousand acres of land. He made all his purchases of land within the period from 1829 to 1853. He was, however, no speculator in lands. He bought no land with the money made by the rise in its value, because he sold none. He paid for all the land he bought from the legitimate profits of his farming, and live-stock business. Mr. Funk made a point of being extremely punctual in keeping his business engagements. He borrowed heavily and he was always able to do so because of the prompt manner in which he met his payments. It is related that on a certain day three thousand dollars was due to be paid at the Ridgely bank in Springfield. Mr. Funk was in Chicago two days before the amount fell due with a quantity of cattle, the proceeds of which he intended to use in making the payment. He started his son, Jacob, who was with him, in the morning on a fast horse from Chicago with the money all in gold. Jacob rode that day, most of the following night, all the next day, arriving home at midnight. Here he obtained another horse, and was again on his way to Springfield by one o’clock in the morning. He arrived at his destination by noon of the day the money was due, walked into the bank and laid the required amount on the counter.

Although devoted to his own interests Mr. Funk found time to attend to political affairs. He served in the legislature from 1840 to 1842, and again in 1862 up to the time of his death in 1865. Originally a whig in his party affiliations, he became a republican on the organization of that party. He gave a liberal and patriotic support to the government during the war for the preservation of the Union. In Professor George W. Smith’s “A Students History of Illinois,” it is related that “the Hon. Isaac Funk, of McLean county, arose in his place in the senate and made a speech in which he denounced the detractors of Lincoln, Yates, and the soldiers in the field. Mr. Funk

probably had not prepared a speech but he had sat for days and even weeks listening to the abuse of the national and state administrations, and fired with indignation, and with a fearlessness that of itself bordered on recklessness, he made a speech which has become historic."

Quotations from this speech are given by Professor Smith, as follows: "I can sit here no longer and not tell these traitors what I think of them; and while so telling them, I am responsible, myself, for what I say. I can stand on my own bottom, I am ready to meet any man on this floor in any manner, from a pin's point to the mouth of a cannon, upon this charge against these traitors. \* \* \* I came to Illinois a poor boy; I have a little something for myself and family. I pay three thousand dollars a year in taxes, I am willing to pay six thousand dollars a year; aye, twelve thousand dollars. Aye, I am willing to pay my whole fortune, and then give my life to save my country from these traitors that are seeking to destroy it. \* \* \* Yes, these traitors and villains in the senate are killing my neighbor's boys, now fighting in the field. I dare to say this to these traitors right here, and I am responsible for what I say to any and all of them. Let them come on, right here. Mr. Speaker, I must beg the pardon of the gentlemen in this senate who are not traitors, but true, loyal men; for what I have said I only intend and mean for the secessionists at heart."

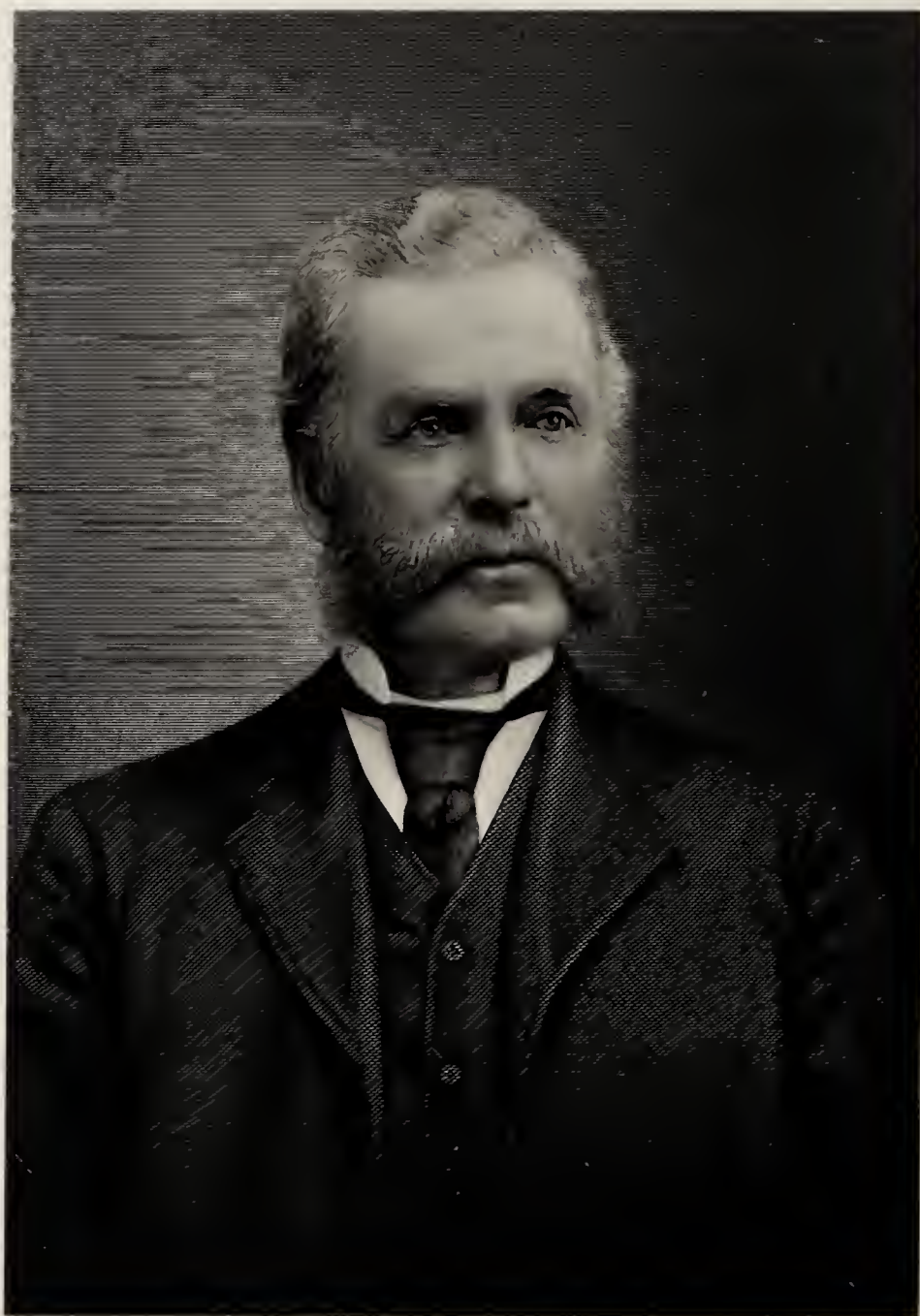
In a paper printed some years ago by the Illinois State Historical Society it is said of Mr. Funk on this occasion, that though he was unaccustomed to speaking in public there came a time when he could not remain silent while men were trifling with the interests of the country. "It was then he arose and hurled at the opposition that philippic which will never be forgotten by those who heard it, and which is probably remembered to-day by more people than remember any other speech ever made in Illinois."

Isaac Funk died at Bloomington on January 29, 1865, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. By his side, in Funk's Grove cemetery, lies his wife, who died but four hours later than himself.

Thus closed an honorable and a useful life. He stood for strict honesty and fair-dealing in his business relations. Mr. Funk was a patriotic supporter of the Union cause, and his memory is cherished by his old neighbors and friends, and generally by the people of Illinois.







William W. Crumpton

## William Warren Crumpton



WITH farming interests in La Salle county William Warren Crumpton was long connected and in the management of his agricultural affairs displayed sound business judgment, keen enterprise and unfaltering energy. Moreover, he was so honorable and upright in all the relations of life that he won the unqualified respect of his fellow citizens and no man in the county was held in higher esteem by reason of personal worth. Mr. Crumpton was a native son of New England, his birth having occurred in New Sharon, Maine, March 10, 1827. His parents were William and Nancy (Ford) Crumpton, also natives of New Sharon and of English descent. They were married in the county of their nativity, where Mr. Crumpton owned a large tract of land which he continuously cultivated until 1852, when he came with his family to Illinois. Settling in La Salle county, he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and bent his energies to its further development and improvement. Year after year his fields were carefully tilled and in his later life, having acquired a handsome competence, he sold his farm to his son William Warren and retired from business cares. He died in September, 1875, and his wife also passed away in La Salle county.

William Warren Crumpton remained a resident of the Pine Tree state until twenty-three years of age, when he came westward to Illinois, first settling on the farm in La Salle county that was later owned by E. F. Day. Subsequently he purchased the place upon which he lived until called to his final rest. It originally was a tract of one hundred and sixty acres but he extended its boundaries by subsequent purchases and at his death was the owner of four hundred acres of very rich and valuable land in La Salle county, also holding titles to eight hundred acres in Livingston county and six hundred in South Dakota, all of which is still in possession of his widow and children. He carried on farming along progressive, modern lines and added to his place many substantial improvements, including commodious buildings and the best makes of machinery with which to facilitate the work of the fields. Indolence and idleness were utterly for-

eign to his nature and he carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook.

Mr. Crumpton was married twice. On the 14th of August, 1851, he wedded Sarah Remick, who died on the 29th of April, 1878. They were the parents of three children: William H., who was born August 15, 1857, and lives in Superior, Wisconsin; Francis R., who was born December 2, 1866, and is also a resident of Superior; and Hiram B., deceased. The first two, in a partnership relation under the firm style of Crumpton & Crumpton, are conducting the oldest and one of the largest grain and commission businesses in the northwest and occupy a very prominent position in commercial circles. Both are married and have families. They have also been prominent factors in public affairs as well as in business life, and Francis R. Crumpton has twice been honored with election to the office of mayor of Superior and has for a long time been state inspector of grain. His extended connection with the grain business enables him to speak with authority on any subject relating thereto. Following the death of his first wife William Warren Crumpton was married, in Philadelphia, December 25, 1878, his second union being with Emma Gerry, who was born in Corinth, Maine, July 31, 1842. They became the parents of a daughter, Helen E., who was born November 11, 1881, and is living with her mother in Ottawa. She is a graduate of the young ladies' school at Sycamore, Illinois, known as Waterman Hall, having pursued the regular four years' course there. Mrs. Crumpton is a daughter of the Rev. Joseph and Julianna (Thomas) Gerry. Her father was born in York, Maine, March 25, 1806, and was a descendant of Elbridge Gerry, statesman and at one time vice president of the United States. Joseph Gerry studied for the ministry at Kent's Hill Seminary in Readfield, Maine, and did pastoral work in various places in the east before coming to Illinois in 1870. He lived thereafter in Ophir township, La Salle county, to the time of his death, which occurred in October, 1886. His wife, who was born November 1, 1821, on Mount Desert Island, Maine, was there married when eighteen years of age and passed away in La Salle county, October 13, 1893.

There was no more respected or valued citizen in La Salle county than William Warren Crumpton, for though he did not seek to figure prominently in public life, he upheld the political and legal status and always cast the weight of his influence on the side of progress, improvement, justice, truth and right. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and while he cared little for public office, his fellow townsmen, appreciative of his worth and loyalty, called him to

several local positions. For fifteen years he was assessor of his township and for twelve years was justice of the peace, in which connection he rendered important public service through the fairness and impartiality of his decisions. He was known as the tallest man in the state of Illinois, his height being six feet and seven inches. His nature was correspondingly great. He never looked at life from any narrow nor contracted standpoint, being a broad and liberal-minded man whose interests reached out over a wide scope. He exemplified in his life the beneficent spirit of the Masonic fraternity, with which he held membership, and no good work done in the name of charity or religion sought his aid in vain. He was very generous and gave freely of his means to aid in the work of the church or to promote the welfare of his town and county. His membership was with the Methodist denomination and yet he was never narrowly sectarian and he rejoiced in good accomplished along any line. He delighted to beautify his own home and had everything of the best, and he was a most entertaining and genial host and companion. Both Mr. and Mrs. Crumpton made their residence a most hospitable one, a cordial welcome being extended to all who entered its doors, and the number of their friends were legion. It was a matter of deep regret on the part of all who knew him when William Warren Crumpton passed away on the 11th of August, 1883, and his memory is enshrined in the hearts of all who had personal relations with him.



## Stephen T. Logan



LAW partnership between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen T. Logan was formed in 1841. Logan was described by Brand Whitlock, who wrote a small book about Lincoln in the series of "Beacon Biographies," as "a little, weazened man, with high, shrill voice, and a great plume of yellowed white hair, but picturesque in his old cape, and accounted the best lawyer in Illinois. He loved money, and kept most of his earnings; but this did not trouble Lincoln, who loved men more than money, and regarded wealth 'as simply a superfluity of things we don't need.' Contact with Logan made him a closer student and an abler practitioner of law." The partnership was terminated in 1843. Lincoln said on one occasion that "it was his highest ambition to become as good a lawyer as Logan."

Stephen Trigg Logan was born in Franklin county, Kentucky, February 24, 1800; studied law at Glasgow in the same state, and was admitted to the bar before he had attained to his majority. In 1832, he emigrated to Illinois, settling in Sangamon county and the next year opened an office in Springfield. In 1835 he was elected circuit judge by the legislature, and after serving in that capacity about two years he resigned because the salary was too small. He was elected to the legislature several times, and always took a leading part in debate. His opinions were received with deference, and he exercised an extraordinary influence by the integrity of his character and his fairness in discussions.

Judge Logan was utterly destitute of those qualities which win the popular heart. He was too honest to succeed in political life, and would never condescend to the arts of and chicanery by which demagogues are accustomed to clamber into office. Logan was small in stature and apparently frail in constitution, but he lived to a ripe old age. He accumulated considerable property and was accounted a wealthy man.

He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1848, and by his characteristic wisdom and prudence materially assisted in the adoption of some of the best provisions of the constitution adopted in that year. He was appointed by Governor Yates one of the seven

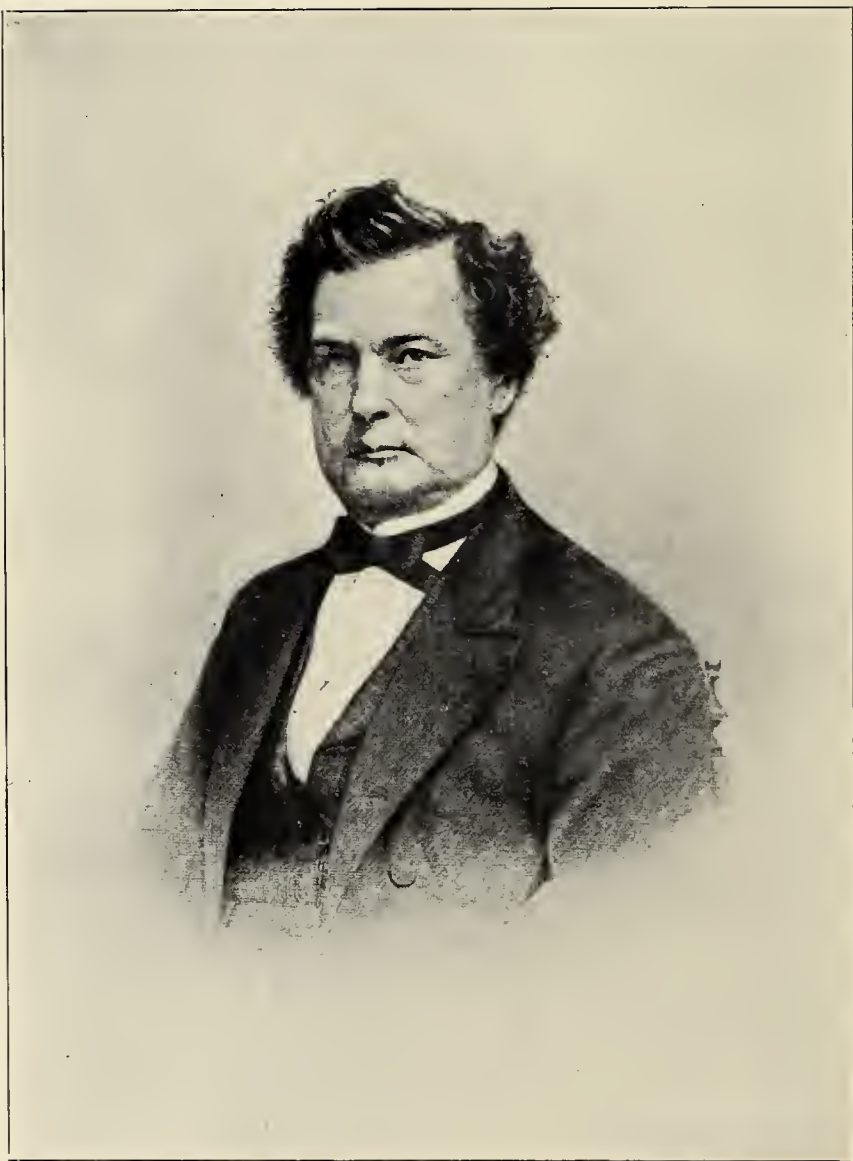
commissioners to represent the state in the celebrated peace convention, which met at Washington prior to Mr. Lincoln's inauguration as president. On that occasion Judge Logan pleaded powerfully for the preservation of peaceful relations between the sections.

In one of his speeches he said: "I have thought of a country through which armies have marched, leaving in their track the desolation of a desert; I have thought of harvests trampled down; of towns and villages, once the seat of happiness and prosperity, reduced to heaps of smoking ruins; of battlefields red with blood, which has been shed by those who ought to have been brothers; of families broken up, or reduced to poverty; of widowed wives, of orphaned children, and all the other misfortunes which are inseparably connected with war. This is the picture which presents itself to my mind every day and every hour. It is a picture which we are doomed soon to witness in our country unless we place a restraint upon our passions, forget our selfish interests, and do something to save our country."

Of Judge Logan, Senator Cullom, in his "Fifty Years of Public Service," says: "I think I never knew another lawyer who could so everlastingly ruin a man who undertook to misrepresent the truth. He seemed to understand intuitively whether a man was trying to tell the truth or was lying; if the latter, his words would so effectually be torn to pieces that they could be of no earthly value. But he was not an adept as a politician. \* \* \* The judge was a true man in every respect,—honest, faithful to his friends, and fearless in doing whatever he believed to be right." At one time when he was president, Lincoln had the name of Logan, as well as those of O. H. Browning and David Davis, under consideration for appointment to the supreme bench, but it was finally decided in favor of Davis. "Logan was a better lawyer than Davis," says Cullom, "but Davis was an abler politician than Logan. Davis, Logan and Browning were all well qualified for the Supreme Court, all of them friends of Lincoln, and all Whigs."

Stephen T. Logan died in Springfield, July 17, 1880, in the eighty-first year of his age. "He will long be remembered," said Conkling, "for his public services as a legislator, for his ability as a judge, and for his eminent success as a lawyer."





Your friend  
Rich. L. L.

## Richard Yates



THE first appearance of Richard Yates in Illinois was as a youth of sixteen when he came to Springfield with his father, who settled there in 1831. He soon after entered Illinois College, at Jacksonville, from which he graduated in 1835. He subsequently studied law in the office of Colonel John J. Hardin at Jacksonville, which thereafter became his home.

Richard Yates was born at Warsaw, Kentucky, January 18, 1815, his ancestors being of English extraction. Some time after having entered upon the practice of law he became a candidate for the legislature in 1842, and was elected, in all serving three terms in that body. In 1850, he was elected as a whig representative to congress, where he remained for two terms. A vigorous opponent of the extension of slavery in the territories, he was an early participant in the movement for the organization of the republican party, having been a prominent speaker on the same platform with Lincoln before the republican state convention, held at Bloomington, in May, 1856. In the November elections of 1860, Mr. Yates was elected governor of the state, and by his energetic support of President Lincoln's administration won the title of "the Illinois War Governor." In 1865, he was elected United States senator, serving until 1871. He died at St. Louis, November 27, 1873.

When Illinois was asked to furnish six regiments under the first call for volunteers in the Civil war, Governor Yates telegraphed General Richard K. Swift at Chicago to have "as strong a force as you can raise," ready to march at a moment's warning. It was in obedience to this summons, within a few days thereafter, that the first arrivals of troops began to appear at their designated rendezvous. While the Thirty-Ninth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers was being recruited it was called "the Yates Phalanx." It was distinctively a Chicago regiment, and afterward rendered distinguished service in the Army of the Potomac. Several of the regiments afterward raised in Chicago were recruited under the auspices of the Chicago Board of Trade; and after the war Governor Yates in a speech at Chicago, reviewing his experiences while he was governor

of the state, took occasion to pay a special tribute to this, the oldest and greatest commercial organization in the state. "While I was engaged in raising Illinois troops, in attempting to discharge the duties of my position," he said, "the most efficient cooperation which I received from any quarter whatever was from the Board of Trade of Chicago."

Governor "Dick" Yates, as he was familiarly called by his friends and supporters, was an orator well versed in the old manner of speaking. The language of his inaugural address, delivered three months before the war began when secession talk was ripe, contains these stirring sentences: "I know that I speak for Illinois, and I believe for the northwest, when I declare them a unit in the unalterable determination of her millions, occupying the great basin drained by the Mississippi, to permit no portion of that stream to be controlled by a foreign jurisdiction. \* \* \* On the question of the Union of these States, all our people will be a unit. The foot of the traitor has never yet blasted the green sward of Illinois. All the running waters of the northwest are waters of freedom and union; and come what will, as they glide to the great gulf they will ever, by the ordinance of 1787, and by the higher ordinance of Almighty God, bear only free men and free trade upon their bosoms, or their channels will be filled by the commingled blood of traitors, cowards and slaves."

In his book of recollections entitled "The Illini," Hon. Clark E. Carr thus speaks of the war record of Governor Yates. "The messages and proclamations and addresses of Governor Yates, eloquent, enthusiastic, instinct with patriotism, would fill volumes. His energy and activity were tremendous. He could brook no delay, and was always impatient to accomplish results. He was always urging the authorities at Washington to move faster,—to do more,—to hasten every movement to overwhelm the enemy."

After the battle of Pittsburgh Landing, Governor Yates proceeded in person to the field and aided in caring for the wounded, working with tireless zeal. He won anew the love of his constituency and the devoted gratitude of the soldiers in the field, often himself performing the offices of nurse in the hospitals. Returning to Springfield he exerted himself in sending forward the supplies gathered by the sanitary commission, and once more visited the scene of active operations. He obtained and well deserved the title of "the soldiers' friend." He sent the sick and wounded to the north in great numbers, and provided for their comfort in every way in his power. In the company of officers on the deck of a river steamer, Governor Yates paid a tribute to the men of Illinois, extolling their patriotism

and bravery. He spoke of the various battles in which they had taken a part, he talked of Grant and Logan, and did not forget the men who were inspiring the people of the north, cheering the soldiers at the front with their songs, such men as George F. Root and Henry C. Work.

A writer in the "Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois" says of Governor Yates, that he "was a man of rare ability, earnestness of purpose, and extraordinary personal magnetism, as well as of a lofty order of patriotism. His faults were those of a nature, generous, impulsive and warm-hearted." A son of Richard Yates, bearing the same name (who was born at Jacksonville in 1860), was elected governor of Illinois in November, 1900. He was the first native-born citizen of Illinois to hold the office of governor.





## Harvey B. Hurd



THE man who was most efficient in the preparation of the law creating the sanitary district of Chicago was Harvey B. Hurd. Mr. Hurd was called "Judge" out of respect for his eminent legal attainments. He never held the position of judge though he was once a candidate for the Supreme bench but was defeated.

Mr. Hurd unselfishly gave his time and talents to the formative period of the sanitary district, which was succeeded by the construction of the great canal. He never charged the district one cent for his services, and never received from the district at any time a fee of any kind.

Harvey B. Hurd was born in Huntington, Connecticut, February 14, 1828. Until he was fourteen years of age he spent the summer months in work upon his father's farm, while in the winter he attended school. He left home in 1842 and became an apprentice in a newspaper office at Bridgeport; but two years later he emigrated, in company with some other young men, to Illinois, where he spent a year in study at Jubilee College, situated in Peoria county. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1848. In 1854 he became a resident of Evanston where he continued to live for fifty-two years, until his death, on January 20, 1906.

Mr. Hurd was an ardent abolitionist and took an active part in the stirring events which occurred in Chicago before and after the repeal of the Missouri compromise. He was a member of the convention which met in Buffalo, New York, at which a national committee was formed to aid, arm and protect the northern settlers in Kansas, and became secretary of its executive committee with headquarters in Chicago. In 1856, Kansas crops proved a failure, owing to the depredations of the contending factions. In anticipation of a lack of seeds for the planting in the coming spring, the committee in New York in February, 1857, passed a resolution instructing the executive committee in Chicago to purchase and forward the necessary seeds, and at the same time appropriated five thousand dollars to aid John Brown in the organization and equipment of the free-soil settlers into companies for self-protection.

Mr. Hurd found on returning to Chicago that the funds in the hands of the treasurer were not sufficient to meet both requirements.

He therefore decided to buy and send on the seeds. When Brown applied for the money appropriated to him, he found the treasury of the committee empty. At first Gerritt Smith and other friends of Brown were inclined to find fault with the action of Mr. Hurd, but when the steamer with the seeds arrived at Lawrence, Kansas, the settlers were overjoyed, and the wisdom of Mr. Hurd's course was amply vindicated. The settlers would have been obliged to leave Kansas had not this timely provision for a crop been made.

When John Brown was in Chicago, after he left Kansas, and a price was put on his head, he was concealed in the house of John Jones, a negro county commissioner, who had been a slave. Brown's clothes were so dilapidated that they were unfit for wear, but he dared not go down town to be measured for a new suit, for fear he would be captured. Mr. Hurd, being about his size, went down and was measured for a suit for Mr. Brown. Mr. Hurd frequently remarked that he was glad he was not in the suit when Brown was hung.

In 1869, Mr. Hurd was appointed by Governor John M. Palmer one of three commissioners to revise and rewrite the general statutes of the state. His colleagues soon withdrew, however, leaving the burden of the work to him alone. He completed his task in April, 1874, and was then appointed by the legislature to supervise the publication of the laws thus codified. Today "Hurd's Statutes" stand as a monument to his memory. He had not only to compile into one homogeneous whole the various laws which from time to time had been enacted by the legislature, but to adapt them to the new state constitution of 1870, discarding old provisions which were in conflict with it, and constructing new ones in conformity with it. Since that time Mr. Hurd has been called upon to edit seventeen editions of the work, which is now regarded as an indispensable requisite in every law office in the state.

From an early time Mr. Hurd was a lecturer in the Union College of Law which eventually became a part of the Northwestern University. This academic work was congenial to him and he was eminently successful as a teacher. Clear cut and logical he had the rare faculty of imparting his knowledge, and giving his students a thorough understanding of the principles of law.

Mr. Hurd was one of the pioneer promoters of the Children's Aid society of Chicago, and throughout his long and useful life was constantly endeavoring to call public attention to the need of preventive work among the young. He was one of the sponsors of the Juvenile Court bill, and took a deep interest in its administration.





*Ered G. Kureuther*

## Frederick C. Neureuther



FREDERICK C. NEUREUTHER occupied the position of purchasing agent for the zinc works at Peru and was prominent in industrial circles as secretary and treasurer of the National Sheet Metal Works. Other business interests also claimed his attention and cooperation and were carefully directed, his sound judgment and energy proving effective forces in the attainment of prosperity.

Mr. Neureuther was born in Peru, December 25, 1873, a son of Charles F. and Louisa (Oesterle) Neureuther. The public schools of his native city afforded him his educational privileges, but when but fourteen years of age he left school in order to become a factor in business circles, being desirous of providing for his own support. He became connected with the zinc works as driver of a coal wagon but soon after joined the office force. He served in humble capacities because his father wished him to learn every phase of the business and accordingly started him at the bottom. No special favors were shown him because of parental influence and his promotion came in recognition of his individual merit and worth. He continued as an office boy for a short time and later was given charge of the shipping department, his responsibilities and duties increasing with each change in his position. Subsequently he was sent to Joplin, Missouri, where he became a member of the ore department there, remaining for about two years in charge of the interests of the firm at that place. He then returned to Peru and became purchasing agent for the zinc works, in which capacity he continued up to the time of his death on the 11th of August, 1912. He was also the secretary and treasurer of the National Sheet Metal Works at Peru and one of its stockholders. One of the elements of his success was his continuous connection with the business in which he embarked as a young tradesman. He became familiar with every phase thereof and was well qualified to assume the responsibilities that later devolved upon him. He became one of the directors of the Peru State Bank and a director of the Deer Park Railway, and his cooperation was considered a valuable asset in the capable and successful direction of business affairs.

On the 20th of March, 1903, Mr. Neureuther was married to Miss Mildred Harseim, who was born at Secor, Illinois, a daughter of Rudolph and Katharine (Kerchner) Harseim, both of whom were natives of Germany, the former born May 8, 1830, and the latter May 28, 1836. The father was brought to America by his parents in 1839 and his father died when making his way up the Mississippi river on shipboard, and was buried along the bank of that stream. The family had landed at New Orleans and were proceeding northward with the intention of making La Salle, Illinois, their home. Rudolph Harseim was reared to manhood there and when twenty-five years of age was married at Peru. A year later he drove an ox team to Minnesota and established his family upon a claim there, but afterward abandoned it because of the hostility of the Indians. He then returned to Peru but after a year went to Secor, where he engaged in general merchandising, making his home there until his death in 1906. His widow is now a resident of Peoria. Mr. Harseim became an extensive landowner in the vicinity of Secor and also owned property in both Secor and Peoria. When in Germany he had served as a member of the regular army. His family numbered fourteen children, of whom Mrs. Neureuther was the thirteenth in order of birth.

In his political views Mr. Neureuther was a stalwart republican, while his fraternal relations were with the Masonic and Knights of Pythias lodges at Peru. He was also a member of the Peru Business Men's Club and of the Deer Park Country Club, and was at all times popular with his associates because of his geniality, his unfeigned cordiality, his sterling worth and his reliability. It is true that he entered upon a business already established, but it was one in which he had to prove his individual worth, and in the course of years he worked upward to an enviable place when judged from the standpoint of success or the regard in which he was held.

## James Shields



IN THE capitol building at Washington the room once used by the House of Representatives in the early days of the republic is now devoted to the purpose of holding the statues of distinguished men. The act of Congress which designated the old Hall of Representatives as Statutory Hall was signed by President Lincoln, and the states were formally invited to set up therein the statues of their most illustrious men or women, places for two such statues being assigned to each state. In response to this call Illinois designated James Shields as a worthy representative of the state. It was not until many years later that a second selection was made, that of Frances Willard in 1905.

James Shields was born in Ireland December 12, 1810, emigrated to the United States at the age of sixteen, and settled in Kaskaskia, Illinois. Here he began to practice law in 1832, was elected to the legislature in 1836, and three years later he became state auditor. He was elected Judge of the Supreme Court in 1843, and two years later was made Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Shields on one occasion sent a challenge to Mr. Lincoln to fight a duel. It was in the year 1842, and while Lincoln was the recognized leader of the whig party, Shields was prominent in the councils of the opposing party. Some criticism indulged in by Lincoln, touching the administration of the office, at that time held by Shields, was the immediate cause of the challenge. When he was asked what he expected to do about it, Mr. Lincoln replied that he was wholly opposed to duelling, and would do anything he could to avoid a meeting, but rather than degrade himself he would fight. There being seemingly no alternative Lincoln sent his acceptance. Having the choice of arms he stipulated that they be cavalry broadswords, and the position to be taken was a space equal to twice the length of the swords. The locality selected was to be "within three miles of Alton on the opposite side of the river."

The belligerents and their seconds reached the appointed spot, when two gentlemen, R. W. English and John J. Hardin, the friends respectively of Shields and Lincoln, who had crossed the Mississippi in a canoe just behind the party, reached the field in time to enter

into a discussion concerning the causes of the challenge. A reconciliation was brought about, deemed honorable to both parties, and the duel did not therefore take place. Twenty years later Lincoln was president of the United States with a great war on his hands, and one of the men whom he appointed to high rank in the army was James Shields.

In 1846, Shields received a commission as brigadier-general of volunteers, and accompanied the army to Mexico. His military career was brilliant; he was dangerously wounded in storming the heights of Cerro Gordo. Returning to Illinois after the war he received an appointment as governor of Oregon Territory, which, however, he declined. In 1849, he was elected to the United States Senate, and at the end of his term in the senate, he left Illinois and went to Minnesota. In Minnesota he was elected to the senate to fill an unexpired term of one year.

Shields then went to California where he resided a year or more, when, in August, 1861, he was appointed a brigadier-general by President Lincoln. In the Shenandoah valley campaign of 1862, Shields was severely wounded, and in the next year he left the army. He then went to Missouri and took up his residence there and served in the legislature of that state. In 1879, he was elected by the Missouri legislature to the United States Senate to fill out the unexpired term of Senator Bogy, deceased, serving only six weeks. Shields thus acquired the unique distinction in the history of the country of having filled the office of United States Senator from three different states. General Shields died at Ottumwa, Iowa, June 1, 1879.

In a volume entitled "Adam W. Snyder in Illinois History," the following description and estimate of General Shields is given: "Nearly six feet tall, raw-boned, straight and soldier-like, with ruddy complexion and dark hair, his face and manners were singularly pleasing and ingratiating. Large-hearted and generous to a fault, he was idiotic in all details of business and finances, and but for his pension would have died in abject poverty. He was a fluent, witty and eloquent speaker, and though not a profound scholar, no one ever made a better display of his natural and acquired abilities than he did. No one was ever more loyal to his country, to his friends, and to the loftiest conceptions of honor and justice, than General Shields."





HENRY W. SCHEERER

## Henry William Scheerer




FEW men are required to take up the burdens and responsibilities of life as early as was Henry W. Scheerer, the eldest of a family of eight children, who were left fatherless when our subject was but sixteen years of age. The responsibility of providing for the family largely devolved upon him and through all the succeeding years he was found faithful to the duties which each day brought. Massachusetts numbered him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Bristol county, December 5, 1859. His parents, Henry and Emily (Raab) Scheerer, were both natives of Germany. In early life the father was a sailor. After coming to the new world he settled in Massachusetts, where he resided until 1861 and then became a resident of Ottawa, Illinois. He thereafter engaged in farming in La Salle county until his death in 1875. His widow continued upon the home farm until about 1902, when she went to Iowa and is still living with her children near Fort Dodge.

Henry W. Scheerer was brought to La Salle county when not yet two years old and was educated in the schools of Farm Ridge. Thrown upon his own resources at the age of sixteen, he struggled along, year after year, in order to provide for his own support and aid in that of the younger members of the family until he attained his majority, when he was assisted by an old friend and neighbor, this assistance enabling him to begin farming on his own account in Farm Ridge township. He rented land for a number of years, during which period he carefully saved his earnings until he was able to purchase property. The first farm which he owned was a tract in Grand Rapids township, upon which he remained for six years, when he again removed to Farm Ridge township and there successfully and capably tilled his fields until about 1897, when he retired to enjoy the rest which he had truly earned and richly deserved, being owner of about four hundred acres. He also dealt to some extent in real estate. He was a man of notable energy and industry, working diligently at all times to better the condition of his family, and he never refused to assist a friend or lend a helping hand to the poor.

On the 8th of March, 1883, Mr. Scheerer was married to Miss Elizabeth Smith, who was born in Farm Ridge township, La Salle

county, August 24, 1861, a daughter of Anton and Louise (Hagedorn) Smith, natives of Germany, whence they came to America in early life. The father engaged in farming until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in the One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three years. He then returned to his farm, which he carefully and systematically cultivated until about 1904, when he took up his abode in the village of Grand Ridge, there living until the death of his wife in September, 1910. He afterward went to live with his daughter in Farm Ridge township. Mr. and Mrs. Scheerer became the parents of six children: Cora, who resides at the old home at Grand Ridge; Jessie, a student in Jennings Seminary, of Aurora; Nettie, twelve years of age, attending school at Grand Ridge; and three sons who died in infancy. The family circle was again broken by the hand of death when on the 18th of March, 1910, Mr. Scheerer passed away, and the silent reaper again entered the household, claiming Mrs. Scheerer on the 13th of July, 1911. In politics Mr. Scheerer was a republican and served on the village board of Grand Ridge for a number of years, and also as township clerk of Grand Rapids township. He belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was a member of the Mystic Workers. Both he and his wife held membership in the Methodist church and were people of the highest respectability, enjoying the warm regard of all with whom they came in contact.

## Norman Edmund Stevens

HE name of Norman Edmund Stevens graces the pages of the history of journalism in Illinois. At the time of his death he had for forty-seven years been actively connected with newspaper publication in Ford county as editor and proprietor of the Paxton Weekly Record. Strong and virile were his utterances, just and equitable his opinions and at all times he was actuated by the high purpose of making his paper a moving force for good and progress in the world. Ohio numbered him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Kent, Portage county, April 25, 1833, his parents being Marcus and Orpha (Phelps) Stevens. The father, a representative of an old New England family, removed in 1808 from Springfield, Massachusetts, to Portage county, Ohio, and was one of the pioneers of that section. There he wrestled with the hardships and privations of pioneer life and at his death in 1840 his wife and five small children, all sons, were left with scant means of support. At the age of ten years Norman E. Stevens began providing for his own support by working upon a farm. His educational opportunities were necessarily limited but, ambitious to acquire broader knowledge, he left the farm at the age of fifteen years, using the money he had saved from his earnings in paying tuition and meeting the expenses of a course of study in Oberlin College. He applied himself assiduously to the mastery of the branches which he took up but after a year and a half's study found that his funds were exhausted and he was compelled to seek employment. At the age of seventeen years he became an apprentice in a newspaper office at Elyria, Ohio, and when it was destroyed by fire a few months later he went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he secured a position on the Daily Forest City, then edited by Joseph Medill, afterward the famous editor of the Chicago Tribune. In connection with the Leader Mr. Stevens completed his apprenticeship as a printer. In 1852 he entered upon a two years' connection with the Ashtabula (Ohio) Democrat. His employer paid him but a small portion of his salary and he was compelled to buy the paper rather than lose his accumulated earnings. It was, however, a democratic organ, supporting Stephen A. Douglas, and as his views were not in accord with the principles advocated by

the "little giant" of Illinois he soon afterward sold the paper and in 1854 removed to Watertown, Wisconsin, there purchasing a half interest in the Chronicle.

In August, 1857, Mr. Stevens disposed of that paper and began the publication of the Wabasha County Herald, a weekly republican paper, at Reed's Landing, Minnesota. The paper was afterward removed to the town of Wabasha and strongly advocated the cause of Fremont in the presidential campaign of 1856. Mr. Stevens secured for the Herald a large circulation and successfully continued its publication until 1863, when he sold out and removed to Chicago, where he again secured employment under his former chief, Joseph Medill. The year 1864 witnessed his arrival in Paxton and January 9, 1865, saw the first edition of the Paxton Record which he owned and published to the time of his death, covering a period of forty-seven years. Speaking to an intimate friend in the latter part of his life, he said: "I have made it a rule of my life to conduct my paper to the uplift of the community." He never descended to the bitter personal attacks which have so often characterized journalistic ventures. He never sought to lead the public astray on the matter of fact and his efforts to mold public opinion were founded upon a firm belief in the justice and efficacy of the cause which he supported. His editorials were clear, concise and to the point. He was never verbose, never ambiguous and the strength of his writing lay in its very simplicity and clarity.

On the 19th of March, 1857, occurred the marriage of Mr. Stevens and Mrs. Adda H. McMillen, the widow of Milo C. McMillen. By her first marriage she had two daughters and a son: Leonore H., the wife of Henry Kelsey, of Woodburn, Oregon; Belle E., who became the wife of Abraham Croft, of Paxton, and died in 1881; and Willis, of Los Angeles, California. To Mr. and Mrs. Stevens were born two sons, both residents of Paxton—Edgar N., who married Miss Eleanora Smith; and H. Arthur, who wedded Minnie Hefner, by whom he has two sons, Harold H. and Herbert, who have chosen journalism as their profession and are now members of the staff of the Paxton Record. Mrs. N. E. Stevens passed away in 1907, at the age of seventy-six years, and Mr. Stevens had almost reached the age of eighty years when death called him, on the 2d of December, 1912. He could not be said to be a man in public life in the usually accepted sense of the term and yet there are few who have exerted a wider influence or done more to merit public regard. He made his paper the medium whereby he expressed his views and his study of vital questions was so comprehensive and his opinions so just that

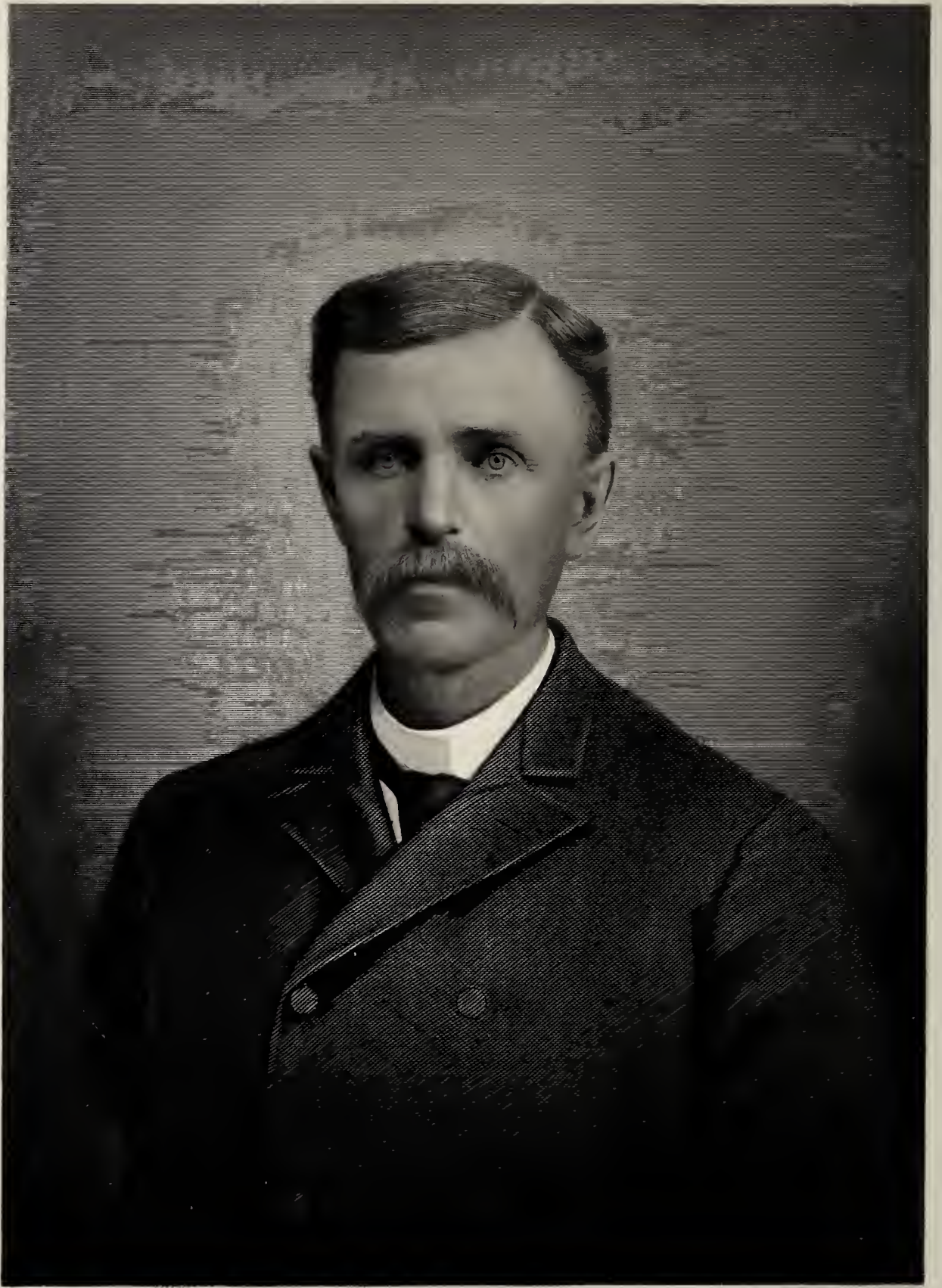
his written utterances found lodgment in the minds of his readers and in time bore fruit. He never cared to hold public office but acceded to the urgent demand of his friends, at length consenting to become a candidate for the Illinois general assembly, in which he represented his district in 1879-80. He served on a number of important committees and the excellent constructive legislation with which he was connected led his constituents to seek his reelection but he declined to again become a candidate. His profession made exacting demands upon his time yet Paxton could always count upon his cooperation in matters relating to her welfare. He served upon the village board, was for some years a member of the school board and at the time of his demise was an active working member of the library board, regularly attending its meetings and doing much to uphold the standard of that institution. He was prominent in Masonry, attaining the Knights Templar degree, and he belonged also to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His Christian life was the outcome of his belief in the teachings of the Congregational church. His career was one of personal sacrifice and public service and his various activities as a journalist and citizen left an ineffaceable influence for good upon the community in which he lived. His pastor spoke of him as one of the highest examples of Christian manhood. He spoke of the figures of speech used in the Bible to characterize the Christian, "light, leaven and salt," and said that Mr. Stevens was sunlight, leaven and salt in his own home, in his church and in various other relations. Many men have attained far greater prosperity if success is to be measured in terms of worldly means, but if character counts for more than all else in the world there were few men equally successful with Norman E. Stevens. His many friends find a fitting tribute to his worth in the words of Shakespeare:

"He was a man. Take him for all in all  
I shall not look upon his like again."

On January 5, 1912, all the business men of Paxton, one hundred and five in number, gave Norman E. Stevens a banquet at Paxton Hotel to show their appreciation of his services to Paxton and Ford county. The mayor and many other leading business men made addresses, and presented him with a silver loving cup with the following inscription on it: "Presented to Hon. Norman E. Stevens by his friends of Ford county in appreciation of forty-seven years service to his county as editor and publisher of the Paxton Record, 1865-1912." Mr. Stevens was the oldest editor in the world at the time of his death.







*H. F. Howland*

## Henry F. Howland



WHILE the record of a business man is less spectacular than that of a military or political leader, it is none the less essential and none the less valuable. In Streator, where for many years he was engaged in the conduct of a furniture and undertaking establishment, Henry F. Howland was well known as a business man whose methods were enterprising and whose dealings were at all times reliable, thus winning for him the confidence and high respect of all with whom he was associated. He was born in Seekonk, Massachusetts, May 5, 1839, a son of Shubal and Mary (Godfrey) Howland. The father was a native of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and during the greater part of his life followed mercantile pursuits. His wife was born at Blackstone, Rhode Island, and spent the greater part of her days in that state. During the early boyhood of Henry F. Howland the parents removed from Seekonk, Massachusetts, to Rhode Island. His mother died when he was but nine years of age and the father with his two sons afterward returned to Fall River, Massachusetts. Henry F. Howland, who had previously been a pupil in the public schools of Rhode Island, made his initial step in the business world at Fall River, where he secured a position as driver of a bakery wagon, making trips to neighboring villages and towns. For a brief period in his youth he was employed in a box factory in Rhode Island and later secured a position with the Lonsdale Manufacturing Company at Lonsdale, Rhode Island. That he was faithful, capable and trustworthy is indicated in the fact that he remained in the mills of that company for fourteen years.

It was in 1870 that Mr. Howland removed to the west, settling at Wilmington, Illinois. In previous years he had carefully saved his earnings and his capital was now invested in a furniture and undertaking business which he conducted at Wilmington for eleven years. That he became well established in public regard there is shown in the fact that when he left Wilmington for Streator one of the local papers wrote of him as follows:

"Mr. Henry F. Howland and family took their departure on Tuesday last for their new home in Streator. We are sorry to lose

so enterprising a gentleman from among our business men as Mr. Howland has been for upward of ten years. We know that we but feebly express the sentiment of our townspeople in saying that all regret his removal from amongst us. During the time Mr. Howland has resided in our city he has filled various offices of honor and trust and in all instances has been found reliable, trustworthy and strictly honest. To the citizens of Streator we recommend him as a thorough going business man and a gentleman in every sense of the word, and we hope that when he acquires a competency in this world's goods that he may return to Wilmington to dwell among us. May health and prosperity attend his household and peace and harmony dwell therein."

Through the influence of Daniel C. Heenan Mr. Howland was induced to go to Streator and open a furniture and undertaking business in that city. There were six furniture stores there at the time, three of which Mr. Howland purchased and later he bought out an established undertaking business, thus extending the scope of his activities. He erected a fine substantial brick block opposite the Heenan department store and was not long in winning a large, growing and profitable trade. He continued the business successfully until 1903, when he sold his stock of furniture and thereafter concentrated his energies upon the undertaking business, which was then conducted under the firm name of H. F. Howland & Sons. He remained in business for three years longer and in 1906 turned over the establishment to his two sons, Henry J. and John F., who conducted the undertaking establishment together until 1909, when John F. Howland passed away, since which time his brother has continued the enterprise alone. The father then retired and spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a rest which he had truly earned and richly deserved. As the years passed on he had prospered and had become the owner of extensive property interests in Streator. It was in 1891 that he erected the three-story brick building on North Park street, where he conducted his store until disposing of the furniture business, when he removed the undertaking rooms to the S. W. Williams block on Main street.

On the 23d of April, 1859, occurred the marriage of Henry F. Howland and Miss Mary Carlin, who was born in County Down, Ireland, February 2, 1832, and came to the United States when about eighteen years of age. She went first to Saylesville, Rhode Island, where she was living at the time of her marriage, the ceremony, however, being performed in Pawtucket, that state. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. John Carlin, also natives of County Down, and after coming to America they made their home at Saylesville until called

to their final rest. Mr. and Mrs. Howland became the parents of eight children: Mary, who became the wife of Nicholas Casey and died January 6, 1911, while Mr. Casey's death occurred March 23, 1909; Lydia, who died in Rhode Island in childhood; Joseph, who passed away at the age of six months; Lydia A., a resident of Streator; Henry J. who is engaged in the undertaking business in Streator; Susan, who died in childhood; John F., who was associated with his father and brother in business and died March 5, 1909; and Lucy M., a resident of Streator.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Roman Catholic church, of which both parents were communicants. Mrs. Howland died on February 17, 1904, and on the 19th of February, 1911, Mr. Howland passed away. In politics he was an independent republican, and while living in Wilmington he served as city clerk for two years and for eight years as a member of the city council, but declined the nomination for mayor. He was also for six years a member of the Streator school board and was ever interested in the work of public progress and improvement. While living in Rhode Island he served as a member of the state militia. His fraternal relations were with the Knights of Columbus and Modern Woodmen of America, and along strictly social lines he was connected with the Streator Club. The high position he held in business circles is indicated in the fact that he was chosen president of the Undertaking Association. He was most devoted to his family, counting no personal effort or sacrifice on his part too great if it would promote the happiness and welfare of his wife and children. He made a companion of his sons and daughters and his love and care for them and for his wife made their home life largely an ideal one. At his death his family received many letters from friends from far and near, letters which spoke of their appreciation of the worth, the manliness and honor of Mr. Howland, and are a greater monument to his worth than any that could be erected of marble.



## William P. Caverly



PREPARED by a well spent life for the death that came to him so suddenly on the 4th of January, 1910, William P. Caverly left behind him a record which many might well emulate, inasmuch as material success crowned his activities and honor and respect came to him as the result of a straightforward, upright life. He was born in County Cork, Ireland, on March 17, 1833, his parents being Andrew and Mary Caverly. The father was a gentleman farmer of Ireland, renting land from Lord Bandon; the mother of French parentage but was born on the Emerald isle. Neither Andrew nor Mary Caverly ever came to the new world. Under the parental roof William P. Caverly spent his youthful days and had acquired a good education by the time he had reached the age of seventeen, when he came to the United States. This was in the year 1850 and famine was prevailing in Ireland, practically forcing him to leave his native land in order to gain a living elsewhere. Such were the hard conditions of life in Ireland that they left an indelible impress upon the mind of Mr. Caverly and in all the ensuing years between his emigration and his death he never failed to extend a helping hand where aid was needed, many testifying to his assistance and liberality in their hour of need. He was accompanied to the new world by his sister Kate, both expecting to return, but they were so well pleased with the country and its people that they decided to remain permanently. They landed at New York and for three years Mr. Caverly engaged in driving a bakery wagon in that city, never having an accident during all that time, a fact of which he was justly proud, as he had practically no knowledge of the city when he accepted the position and was unacquainted with American ways and customs. At length Mr. Caverly was persuaded to enter upon an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade by his elder brother, John, who came to the United States after the arrival of William. When the three years' period of indenture had ended the brothers came to the west, William remaining for a brief period in Chicago and afterward going to Annawan, Kewanee and finally Toulon.

In Stark county Mr. Caverly formed the acquaintance of Miss Elizabeth Hartley, and on the 17th of December, 1864, she gave him

her hand in marriage. She was born near Sheffield, England, August 17, 1844, a daughter of Charles and Ann (Hamshaw) Hartley, both of whom were natives of England, where the father engaged in raising flax, employing several men. In 1853 he brought his family to the United States and settled east of Toulon. His parents had come to the United States some years before, establishing their home at Wheeling, West Virginia. Mr. Hartley visited his people there and then came on to Stark county, Illinois, in 1851. He purchased land and then returned to England, but brought his family with him to the new world in 1853. He then took up his abode upon his farm and there resided until 1888, when he and his wife left the farm to their sons and removed to Toulon, where Mr. Hartley continued to reside until his demise. During the period of his retirement he spent considerable time in travel, which he greatly enjoyed. He died April 21, 1908, and his wife passed away in March, 1907. Of their family of nine children five are yet living, including Mrs. Caverly.

For a year after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Caverly resided in New York city and then removed to Stark county, Illinois, Mr. Caverly turning his attention to contracting and building, in which he was very successful. Contracts for the erection of large buildings were accorded him in Toulon and in surrounding towns and cities. He erected the Peoria board of trade building, the public school building of Toulon and many other important structures in this part of the state. At length he turned from industrial to agricultural pursuits, purchasing a farm east of Toulon, while later he sold that property to Clark Hodges for the farm which was the Caverly homestead for many years. The land at that time was somewhat low and marshy and many thought that Mr. Caverly had got the worst of the bargain, but time proved the wisdom of his judgment, for the district in which he settled has been converted into some of the best farming lands of the state. After acquiring that property he gave his attention almost exclusively to agricultural pursuits and met with well deserved success in all his operations, afterward adding several other farms to his original possessions. Five years prior to his death, however, he put aside the work of the fields and again took up his abode in Toulon, where his remaining days were passed practically in retirement.

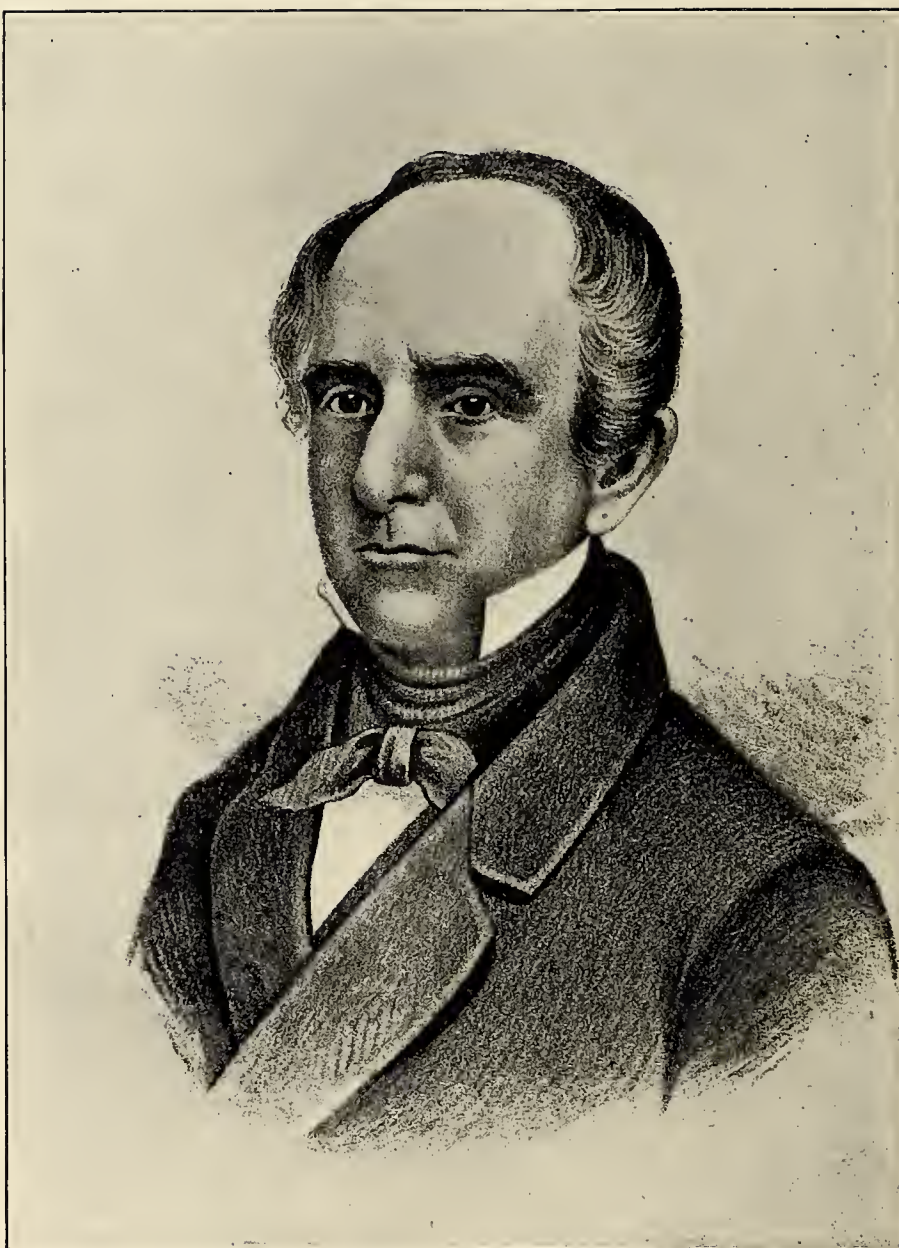
Unto Mr. and Mrs. Caverly were born four children: Edward C. and George A., who are residents of Toulon; Frank J., who makes his home in Davenport, Iowa; and Mary, who became the wife of John D. Pauli and died June 3, 1901, leaving an infant daughter, Beatrice, who was reared by Mr. and Mrs. Caverly.

Mr. Caverly was a lifelong member of the Catholic church and to its teachings he had always been faithful. He was a loyal citizen of his adopted land and in business affairs was an energetic, enterprising man, who carefully guided and shaped his interests so that success resulted and he became one of the most prosperous residents of Toulon. In all his dealings he was thoroughly trustworthy and what he achieved represented the wise use of his time, talents and opportunities. He never had occasion to regret his determination to come to America, for here he found the opportunities which he sought and in their improvement attained prosperity and prominence. He had a wide acquaintance among the leading men throughout the state and Mrs. Caverly now has in her parlor, placed in a beautiful frame, an invitation requesting his presence at the laying of the corner stone of the United States government building in Chicago on the 9th of October, 1899, signed by Governor John R. Tanner, Mayor Carter H. Harrison; chairman of the committee, William P. Williams; Judge Peter S. Grosscup; and Thomas C. McMillan, secretary of invitations. Mr. Caverly never sought to figure prominently in public affairs, yet his sterling worth was recognized by all who knew him, and thus it was that he gained many friends among the leading residents of the state.









*Edmund Coles*

## Edward Coles



THE prevention of a pro-slavery clause in the constitution of our state was chiefly the work of the subject of this sketch, and entitles him to a high place in the Valhalla of our heroes and great men. As the chief executive of the state from 1823 to 1827 Governor Coles led the fight to prevent the adoption of an amendment to the constitution which would legalize slavery in this state. So important was the issue which was thus decided in 1824, that Miss Lottie E. Jones, an acknowledged authority on the subject of Illinois history, regards the decision then made as one of the five events which were vitally decisive in their character. The following sketch is based and largely quoted from her work, entitled, "Decisive Dates in Illinois History."

Edward Coles, the second governor of Illinois, was born in Albemarle county, Virginia, December 15, 1786. He was the son of John Coles who had been a colonel in the Revolutionary war. Edward was one of ten children. A neighbor and intimate friend of the family at that time was Thomas Jefferson who was very fond of the youth, and showed him many favors, none of greater value than his counsel and the influence of his personality. It was from Jefferson that young Coles imbibed ideas of the wrongs of slavery.

Young Coles pursued his studies under private tutors, and when he was nineteen years of age he was sent to William and Mary College. He became convinced during the time he spent at college that the principles of slavery were fundamentally wrong, alike injurious to the master and to the slave.

The wife of President Madison was a cousin of young Coles, and perhaps because of this relationship, though more especially for his fitness, he was appointed private secretary to the president. At this time Edward Coles was a tall and handsome young man, well educated, with good manners and of excellent character. He was the proprietor of a fine plantation, and the owner of twenty-five slaves which was the share of his father's property which he had inherited. He was also related to Patrick Henry, the famous statesman and patriot.

While secretary to the president Coles was sent to Russia on a mission of a diplomatic character. Upon his homeward journey he spent some time in England and made the acquaintance of Morris Birkbeck, who afterward became a resident of Illinois. After Coles had returned to America, he determined to make his home in some non-slave state or territory. He had visited Illinois Territory on two occasions, once in 1815, and again three years later. He was so favorably impressed with the country that he decided to make his home here. He sold his lands in Virginia and taking his slaves with him, in the spring of 1819, he set out on his third journey to the west.

Coles and his party descended the Ohio river in flat boats to a point below Louisville, where they disembarked, and traveled overland to Edwardsville. While descending the river he informed his slaves that they were free, and, after arriving at their destination, he gave to each head of a family one hundred and sixty acres of land. When the announcement of this generous act was made to the slaves "they stood before me," wrote Coles, "unable to utter a word, but with countenances beaming with expression which no words could convey and which no language can describe. After a pause of intense and unutterable emotion, bathed in tears, and with tremulous voices, they gave vent to their gratitude and implored the blessing of God on me." There is a picture representing this scene in the capitol at Springfield.

At Edwardsville Coles entered upon the duties of register of the land office, to which he had been appointed by President Monroe. In 1822, he became candidate for governor with the support of those who desired to frustrate the plans of the pro-slavery party, and was elected in due course. When the state was admitted four years before an article in the constitution provided that "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall hereafter be introduced into this state." It was proposed that a convention should be called for the purpose of changing this article and allowing the introduction of slavery. Coles strenuously opposed the calling of such a convention, and an active campaign was carried on during the years 1823 and 1824, in which Coles was efficiently aided by such men as Samuel D. Lockwood, Daniel P. Cook, Morris Birkbeck, George Forquer, Hooper Warren, George Churchill and others. The proposition for a state convention to revise the constitution was rejected at the election of 1824, by a sufficient majority to insure its absolute and permanent defeat for all future time. Governor Coles contributed his salary for his entire term, four thousand dollars, towards the expenses of the campaign.

The success of the party headed by Coles who would prevent any change in the organic law regarding slavery settled an issue that had deeply stirred the people throughout two years of Governor Coles' administration. The question, "Shall Illinois be ranked among the slave states?" was settled once and forever. In commenting upon the victory, Professor Harris, in his "Negro Servitude in Illinois," says: "Emigration from the south was checked, because southerners would not go to a country where the prospects for retaining their slaves was extremely limited. On the other hand, the door was more effectually opened to emigrants from the north and from the east, and within six years they had poured into central and northern Illinois so numerous as to preclude the possibility of the pro-slavery element ever gaining supreme control in state affairs. It was a great advantage economically, moreover, that the institution of slavery was thus early excluded from the prairies of Illinois. If it had been encouraged, slave labor would have driven out all other labor, the want of independent, energetic, and progressive farmers would have been felt, and the development of the country very materially retarded."

After an extremely strenuous term of four years as governor of the state, Coles retired to his home at Edwardsville, busying himself with the care of his farm. Agricultural pursuits were attractive to him, and he aided in promoting a general interest in farm life by founding the first agricultural society of the state. In 1830 he again entered the political field and became a candidate for congress, but being known as an opponent of General Jackson, then the idol of the democracy, he was defeated by Joseph Duncan.

Suffering from ill health he removed in 1832 to Philadelphia and thereafter made that city his permanent home. He died there July 7, 1868, having lived, however, to see the total extinction of slavery in the United States.



## Captain William E. Adams

**I**N THE year 1830 a little caravan of covered wagons wended its way into Coles county. In one of these wagons rode the Adams family, bringing with them an infant son whose birth had occurred in Bedford county, Tennessee, October 15, 1830. This child was destined to play an important part in shaping the history of the county as a member of the bar and as judge upon the county bench. His parents were John Jefferson and Martha (Gammill) Adams, natives of North Carolina and Tennessee respectively. On coming to Illinois they settled in the vicinity of Farmington, in what is now Pleasant Grove township, Coles county, where the father purchased a tract of wild land from the government. They lived in their wagons the first winter and when the weather became warmer built a log cabin which the family occupied until they could afford to erect a house of hewed logs. This, during the period of the Civil war, was replaced by a brick residence which is still standing. The father participated in three wars of the country, the Black Hawk, the Mexican and the hotly contested struggle between the north and south, in which he was a member of the Fifth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, holding the rank of lieutenant. Patriotism was one of his marked characteristics and at all times he manifested a public spirited devotion to the welfare of the community in which he lived. Coles county lost one of its valued and representative citizens when in 1879 he passed away at the age of seventy-two years.

Captain William E. Adams was the eldest of six children, the others being: Elizabeth; Eliza, deceased; Martha; Margaret; and John. The last named died while serving in the Fifth Illinois Cavalry during the Civil war. Captain Adams attended the subscription schools of an early day until fifteen years of age, when he went to Grandview, Illinois, to continue his studies and later went to Madison, Wisconsin, where he entered upon the study of law. Following his graduation there he was admitted to the bar and located for practice in Mattoon, Illinois, in 1858.

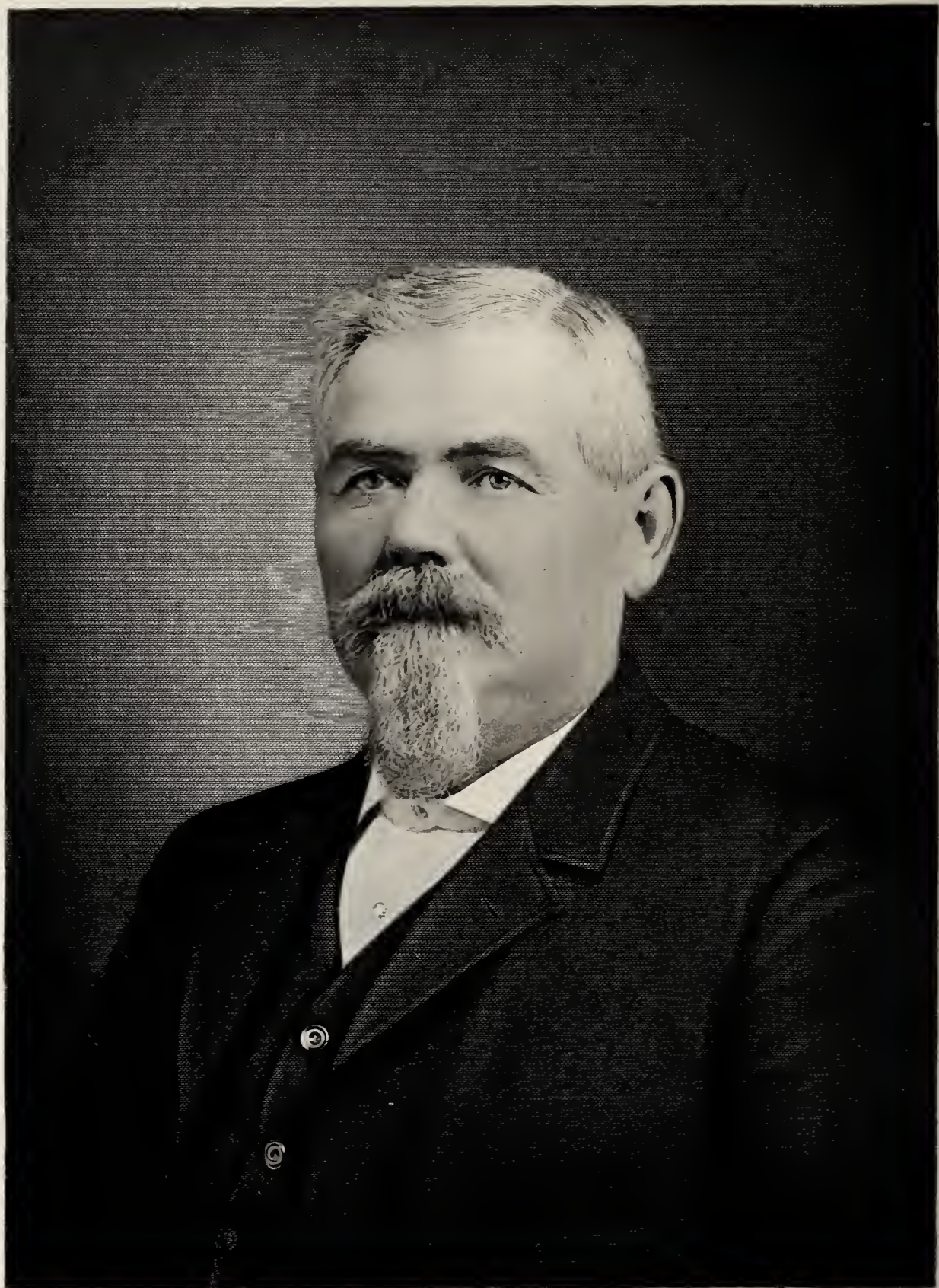
It was in August of the same year that he married Olive Amelia Holton, who was born in Hyde Park, Vermont, September 18, 1833, a daughter of David and Olive (Green) Holton, who were also

natives of the same state and in 1854 removed to Wisconsin, where they resided until death. Mr. and Mrs. Adams became the parents of five children: John, who is deceased; Jennie, who is the wife of William Miles, of Charleston; Sarah, a widow; William E., who is connected with the Adair Abstract Company; and Helen, the wife of Hugh Johnston, of Charleston.

Following his marriage Captain Adams continued in the practice of law in Mattoon until the spring of 1862, when he could no longer content himself to remain at home while the country was involved in civil war and began raising a company which became Company I of the One Hundred and Twenty-third Illinois Infantry. As its captain he went to the front and served until the close of hostilities, being mustered out with the rank of major. The first engagement in which the regiment participated was at Perryville, Kentucky, where heavy losses were sustained. The regiment did most of its fighting in Kentucky and Tennessee and Captain Adams was ever in the thickest of the fight, inspiring and encouraging his men with much of his own zeal and valor. At the close of the war he returned to Mattoon and the same year was elected county clerk, after which he removed to Charleston, occupying the position for two terms. At the close of his service in that office he was elected county judge and remained upon the bench for four years, making a most creditable record by the impartiality of his decisions, his comprehensive knowledge of the law and the correctness of its application to the points in litigation. He then took up the practice of his profession, which he followed until failing health obliged him to retire and he ever maintained a prominent and creditable position at the Coles county bar.

His political allegiance was given to the republican party, of which he was a stalwart advocate. He was both an Odd Fellow and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and he was a prominent and influential member of the Presbyterian church, in which he served as elder. His widow and his children all belong to that church and the family has been an active force in promoting Christian progress. Mrs. Adams still occupies the old home at No. 834 South Tenth street in Charleston, where she has lived since 1876. When they took up their abode there Charleston was a small village and in the vicinity of Mrs. Adams' present home there were only two or three houses on the street. In every relation of life Captain Adams made a record for upright manhood and honorable citizenship and in civic office and in all private relations was as loyal to his country as when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields.





*A. J. Kulison*

## Nelson J. Rulison

**T**HROUGH the stages of consecutive development and progress Nelson J. Rulison passed toward the goal of success. The interests and activities which occupied his time and attention were ever of an honorable and useful character and brought him at length to a position as a representative of commercial and financial interests in Seneca. He was, however, known throughout northern Illinois as a leading business man, for his activities covered a wide scope and brought him an extended acquaintance. There is much in his life history worthy of emulation and also illustrative of what may be accomplished when energy, determination and honesty constitute the foundation stones of character. Mr. Rulison was born November 6, 1827, in Jefferson county, New York, a son of Cornelius and Catherine (Ellwood) Rulison. The parents were both natives of Montgomery county, New York, and passed away in the Empire state. The father, who was born in 1804, died in 1835 when his son Nelson was but seven years of age, and three years later the son began providing for his own support at farm labor in Schoharie county, New York, where he was employed until he reached the age of fourteen years. He then returned to his native county and for about two years acted as assistant to his uncle, Nelson Rulison, who was a surveyor. Realizing his lack of educational advantages he used a part of his earnings to meet the expense of a course of study in the academy at Gouverneur, St. Lawrence county, New York, during the spring and summer of 1843. Moreover, studious habits in his youth promoted his knowledge and during the fall and winter following his academic course he was employed as a teacher in one of the rural schools of St. Lawrence county. In the spring of 1844 he went to Montgomery county, New York, where he engaged in farming and was also employed during a part of the summer on the Erie canal, that being his initial experience in canal work, with which he was later long connected. The next winter was passed in the lumber districts of Steuben county, New York, and through the succeeding summers he was again upon the canal. In 1850 he taught school at Port Jackson, Montgomery county, New York, and then spent two more summers on the canal.

It was in the fall of 1852 that Mr. Rulison left the Empire state and went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where in the following winter he attended Grundy's Commercial College, devoting his leisure hours while thus engaged to soliciting subscriptions for books and periodicals in order to meet his daily needs. In February, 1853, he went to St. Louis, where he established a book agency employing several men. In the same year he was married and subsequent to that event he established a general book agency in Chicago, remaining there, however, for only a short time. In August, 1853, he became captain of a canal boat on the main line running between Chicago and St. Louis, spending five years in that way. In 1859 he was appointed general freight agent for the Union Line at La Salle, Illinois, and in the fall of the same year purchased an interest in a boat and the following spring again went upon the canal, being thus engaged for about eight years or until 1867. He then purchased a canal steamboat and at the same time was the owner of large interests in other boats. Mr. Rulison was the pioneer in introducing the system of barge boating which he followed for three seasons prior to its general introduction, during which period he won substantial success, laying the foundation for a most comfortable fortune. In 1872 he abandoned active canal enterprises although he still retained large interests in boats. He was a well known figure during the period when the canal was largely used as a means of transportation through the state and became widely known in that connection.

As previously stated Mr. Rulison was married in the year of his removal to St. Louis, Miss Margaret Fleming of that city becoming his wife on the 23d of June, 1853. She was born in Ireland, May 2, 1837, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Fallen) Fleming, who were also natives of the Emerald isle, where they spent their entire lives. Their daughter Margaret was a maiden of ten summers when she came to the United States, crossing the Atlantic with her uncle. The family were the owners of sailing vessels on one of which Margaret Fleming and her uncle made the voyage to the new world. She afterward lived with her brother in St. Louis. By her marriage she became the mother of six children of whom three are yet living. Ada C. became the wife of George Garden, who died in 1902, leaving two daughters, Edna and Margaret, who are with their mother in Seneca. Alida M. is the wife of James J. Conway, of Ottawa, and they have one son, Nelson J. R. Conway, born June 19, 1904. Edna is the wife of James J. Farrell, a prominent business man of Ottawa and a leading factor in municipal affairs, having twice served as mayor of that city.

In the year 1868 Mr. Rulison removed with his family to Ottawa and there resided for five years or until 1873, when he went to Seneca. He was thereafter prominently identified with the business interests of that place, becoming a leading grain merchant there. He also did business on the board of trade for himself and others and was always successful in his operations. He likewise became a factor in the financial circles of Seneca, establishing a banking institution which is now a state bank, although he conducted it as a private bank. He owned the building in which the business was carried on and his widow is still owner of some of the bank stock. His realty holdings included one hundred and seventy-nine acres of land in Brookfield township, La Salle county, this farm being one of the tangible evidences of the success which he achieved in an active and well spent life. He possessed good executive force and administrative ability and in business circles enjoyed the highest regard of his colleagues and contemporaries. While his commercial and financial interests grew in volume and importance he did not allow these to so absorb his time as to preclude the possibility of active cooperation in public movements. In fact he was the leader in many projects for the good of the community in which he lived. He served for four years as a trustee and for two years as president of the board of Seneca and while acting as a member of the school board was instrumental in securing the election of a splendid school building in the town. His political allegiance was always given to the republican party, for he deemed its platform a forceful element in good government. He continued active in business in Seneca to the time of his death, which occurred October 4, 1896, when he was laid to rest in the Ottawa Avenue cemetery of Ottawa. When a young man he had become a member of the Odd Fellows society of which he remained a loyal adherent. He was preeminently, however, a home man, doing everything possible in his power for the welfare and happiness of his family, who stood first with him in all things. He was an ideal husband and father as well as a progressive citizen and an enterprising and prosperous business man and financier. His life record is another proof of the fact that in this country labor finds its just reward when close application and energy constitute the salient features of success. Such a record is not uncommon, yet it never fails to elicit attention and commendation. The world admires the victor and in a successful business career a struggle is waged constantly for supremacy over adverse conditions, competition and the obstacles which arise through the subversion of plans through outside influence. Without special

advantages at the outset of life, Mr. Rulison made continuous progress resulting in the attainment of an enviable position among the business men of northern Illinois.



## Victor Jacob Peltier



LIFE span of seventy-seven years was accorded Victor Jacob Peltier and the record which he made through the decades which covered his active business career was a most commendable one. He was the pioneer in the glass industry at Ottawa and in that connection held to the highest ideals, conducting his interests along the line of improvement and artistic development. He was born February 3, 1833, in Lorraine, France, a son of Jacob Peltier. The father's birth also occurred in that province, and he was connected with glass manufacturing there. He never came to this country.

The boyhood and youth of Victor Jacob Peltier were spent in his native country, where he learned the trade of manufacturing colored glass according to the methods and customs of the old world. He served a regular apprenticeship and was thoroughly acquainted with the trade, as followed in Europe, when he crossed the Atlantic to the new world. For more than a half century he was a resident of the United States. After his arrival here he learned something of the methods of glass manufacturing in this country and at length he established the pioneer business of the kind in the middle west. It was about 1878 that he came to Ottawa and established the industry which has since been continued and has now reached extensive proportions, being one of the important manufacturing concerns of northern Illinois. His labors resulted in giving Ottawa the distinction of being the scene of the pioneer as well as the leading art glass factory of the Mississippi valley. He displayed great perseverance and energy and kept at all times abreast with the progress made by the trade. His plant was thoroughly modern in its equipment, being supplied with the latest improved machinery, while the most modern processes in manufacture were utilized. In the face of difficulties and obstacles which would have utterly discouraged and disheartened many a man, Mr. Peltier managed his business, showing unfaltering courage at all times, and his power turned threatened disasters into victories. He regarded his chosen vocation not as a trade but as an art. He loved it as the sculptor who takes the rude block of stone and by the strength of his genius fashions it into a thing of joy and beauty, or as a painter whose brush creates spirit and soul upon a

canvas. He was constantly studying for improvement and advancement, was ever seeking to better manufacturing methods and to produce more artistic results. At length his labors and experiments were rewarded in the production of what no other had been able to produce at that time. He gave to his work the best thought of his active mind and his genius resulted in the production of a glass of rare beauty. He discovered and perfected a method by which he could imprison in perfect form the ever changing lights and colors of the opal and he appropriately called his creation opalescent glass. Today this product goes forth from Ottawa to all parts of the world and to all art centers, and it is only as others have been instructed at Ottawa that they have been enabled to manufacture a glass of equal beauty and worth. Mr. Peltier certainly deserved much credit for what he accomplished. The word "fail" never had a place in his vocabulary. Patiently persevering, he did not demand immediate results but was content to study and wait, knowing that success must ultimately crown his efforts. His achievements are indeed a monument to his skill and enterprise and place him prominently among America's foremost inventors and manufacturers.

Mr. Peltier was united in marriage to Miss Mary Peltier, of Brooklyn, New York, who, though of the same name, was not a relative. She was born in Lorraine, France, October 18, 1843, about six miles from the birthplace of her husband and was a daughter of Francis Peltier, also a native of Lorraine, where he engaged in the manufacture of glass. After coming to the new world he established a glass factory in Brooklyn, New York, and there he passed away September 2, 1864. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Jeley and was born at Alsace, France. Mrs. Mary Peltier was brought by her parents to the new world in 1857. By her marriage she became the mother of nine children, of whom six are living: Mrs. Theodore Zellers, now of Hartford, Indiana; Mrs. Fred Heiser; Joseph; Mrs. Will S. Zellers; Sellers H.; and Mrs. Charles Pyle, of Aurora. The two sons, Joseph and Sellers, are now engaged in the manufacture of glass, having become successors to their father in the conduct of the business in Ottawa.

When Victor J. Peltier was called to his final rest Ottawa lost one of her most loyal, valued and worthy citizens. From the time of his arrival here he was closely identified with her business interests and her advancement along other lines, and the same spirit of progress actuated him in all of his business relations as it did in his private affairs. His political support was given to the republican party and he was well informed on the questions and issues of the day but he

never sought nor desired office. He was an honored member of the Starved Roek Council of the Knights of Columbus and in the various relations of life and through his varied connections he won many friends. He made distinct contribution to the happiness and pleasure of mankind by giving to the world something that added to its beauty. In his business he was enterprising and progressive and he was kind and generous to his employes, enjoying their confidence and respect in unusual degree. He was very scrupulous in his dealings and it became recognized that his word was as good as a bond. When he was called to his final rest funeral services were held at St. Columbia Catholie church, of which he had been a member, and its large auditorium was filled with sorrowing friends, while a long proeession followed the body to its last resting place. He believed in the principles of unity, charity and brotherly love and made these daily factors in his life. He was modest and unassuming, was unselfish and was uniformly courteous and considerate to others. None doubted the sincerity of his thought or his motive. Life was to him opportunity—the opportunity not only for the achievement of success but also the opportunity to make the world better. Those who knew him but slightly respected him; those who were more intimate entertained for him warm friendship; and those who came within the closer circles of his life had for him deep love.









WILSON CONARD

## Wilson Conard



WILSON CONARD was born in Miller township, La Salle county, north of Marseilles, October 5, 1863, a son of David Wilson and Elizabeth Jane (Grove) Conard. The father's birth occurred in Loudoun county, Virginia, April 7, 1825, and the mother was born February 17, 1828. They were married March 7, 1853. The former was but three years of age when taken to Licking county, Ohio, where he grew up and learned the carpenter's trade. In 1844 he arrived in La Salle county, Illinois, where he worked at his trade through the building season and engaged in school teaching during the winter months. In 1848 he made his first purchase of land, becoming owner of one hundred acres of prairie land in Miller township. When he made his journey on horseback from Ohio to Illinois he had but fifty cents remaining on reaching his destination. On the journey he forded streams and met many hardships and difficulties, but he possessed energy and determination and was soon on the highroad to success. Before his first marriage he built a log cabin which was afterward destroyed in a prairie fire that also burned his crops. In the early years he harvested his grain himself, working with a cradle and other primitive farm implements. As he prospered in his undertakings he added to his real-estate holdings and became one of the largest landowners of Illinois. He was identified with banking interests in Marseilles and other cities in both the east and west, and although he arrived in Illinois with but fifty cents in his pocket, at his death he left an estate valued at more than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. He continued to reside upon his farm until 1896, when he removed to Marseilles and there lived retired until his demise, April 24, 1899. His wife survived until July 1, 1910. They were the parents of six children, of whom two died in infancy. The two yet living are: Grant, now residing in San Diego, California; and Laura C., the wife of Samuel Montgomery of Marseilles. D. W. Conard was twice married. His first union was with Barbara Dieboldt, whom he wedded June 10, 1849. They had one child, Virgil, who died in 1892, while the mother passed away February 9, 1851.

In the district schools of Miller township, La Salle county, Wilson Conard pursued his education and upon the home farm remained until

he attained his majority. His father gave him eighty acres of land, and also purchasing eighty acres in Iroquois county he began farming thereon, boarding with his sister. After his marriage he resided upon his own place, there living until the spring of 1894, when he sold out and purchased two hundred and forty acres in Rutland township, La Salle county, upon which he lived until July, 1904. He then retired to Ottawa, purchasing a modern residence at No. 643 Congress street, which he occupied until his death, December 15, 1911. He owned a large amount of real estate, being one of the largest landowners in La Salle county, his possessions aggregating twelve hundred acres of valuable farm property. He was also interested in the Ottawa Development Association and the Fair Association. He was a lover of fine stock and while upon the farm kept a large number of high-grade horses and cattle.

On the 16th of March, 1886, Mr. Conard wedded Miss Mary Batchelor, who was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, a daughter of George and Christina (Morrison) Batchelor, both natives of Edinburgh, born in 1823 and in June, 1830, respectively. In Scotland the father conducted a shoe store and also manufactured shoes. In the spring of 1862 he brought his family to La Salle county, Illinois, where he engaged in mining coal for a time but afterward sold his coal lands and about 1870 purchased a farm near Onarga, Iroquois county, Illinois, where he resided until he retired from business life and took up his abode in Onarga. There he died about 1898, while his widow still lives in that city. Of their family of nine children six are living: Christina, the wife of John Bach, of Keokuk; Betsy E., the wife of J. W. S. Clark, of Cashmere, Washington; Francis, of Canyon City, Colorado; Mrs. Conard; Davina, who is with her mother; and Jessie, the wife of Leon Powell, a ranchman of Cashmere, Washington. Of those deceased, Anna was the wife of David R. Dowell. Mr. and Mrs. Conard have three children: David Roy, who married Winifred Lucas and resides on the old homestead in Rutland township, La Salle county; and Anna C. and Laura E., twins, residing with their mother.

Mr. Conard met an accidental death, being killed by his automobile plunging into the hydraulic basin. His demise was deeply regretted by all who knew him, for his many sterling traits of character had endeared him to many friends. He was a popular and valued member of Occidental Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Shabbona Chapter, R. A. M.; Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T.; and the Mystic Shrine, of Peoria. He also belonged to Ottawa Lodge, No. 588, B. P. O. E., and the Ottawa Boat Club. His political support was given to

the republican party and his religious faith was that of the Congregational church. Honored and respected by all, no man occupied a more enviable position in business circles than Wilson Conard, and the high esteem which was accorded him was also the result of an upright life, in which he displayed all the sterling qualities of manhood and citizenship.





## Hon. Sylvester W. Randall



UTY and honor were watchwords in the life of the Hon. Sylvester W. Randall and justice was one of his strong characteristics. He was aptly termed the "man of purpose" and the story of his life is the story of indefatigable effort, intelligently directed, in the field of law practice. He was for an extended period a prominent representative of the Joliet bar and he also aided in framing the laws of the state, having served as a member of the Illinois general assembly. His birth occurred in Hoosick Falls, New York, March 23, 1808, two years after his parents, Benjamin and Polly (Lathrop) Randall, who were natives of New England, removed to the Empire state. The family home was established upon a farm where their residence was maintained until 1817, when Sylvester W. Randall accompanied his parents to Fredonia, New York. He pursued an academic education there to the age of sixteen, at which time he felt it incumbent on him to provide for his own support and entered upon an apprenticeship to the printer's trade which he followed for four years. His ambition, however, was directed toward the law and about 1828 he removed to Franklin county, Pennsylvania, where he began preparation for the bar in the office and under the direction of George Galbraith, a well known attorney of that day. Subsequently his studies were directed by Chief Justice Thompson and in 1834 he was admitted to the bar. In the meantime he had engaged in teaching and had worked at the printer's ease in order to meet his expenses while qualifying for law practice. The elemental strength of his character was then shown and constituted an indication of the qualities which were later to bring him to success as a practitioner before the courts. He made his initial step as a lawyer at Erie, Pennsylvania, and also acted as associate editor of the Erie Observer in 1873. No dreary novitiate awaited him. He soon proved his ability in the successful conduct of cases entrusted to him and his clientage became large and of a distinctively representative character.

From the time Mr. Randall arrived in Joliet until his death he figured as one of the prominent attorneys of Will county. His fellow citizens, appreciative of his ability as a lawyer, chose him to preside over the circuit court and while acting as judge he displayed a master-

ful grasp of every problem presented for solution. His decisions, too, were strictly fair and impartial and lawyers seldom took exception to his rulings. He seemed to readily recognize the equity of the case as well as to the points in law applicable to his cause and no one was more careful to conform his practice to a high standard of professional ethics. A contemporary writer has said of him: "He was recognized as one of the ablest chancery lawyers of the state and had broad and intimate knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence in all of its departments. In civil cases he presented his cause with clearness and force and in criminal cases was strong in argument and logical in his deductions. During his practice of thirty years no client of his was ever sent to the penitentiary or to the gallows. He was a fluent speaker, of marked oratorical power, and in addition to his ready gift of language he had keen perceptive power and accurately applied the principles of law to the points in litigation."

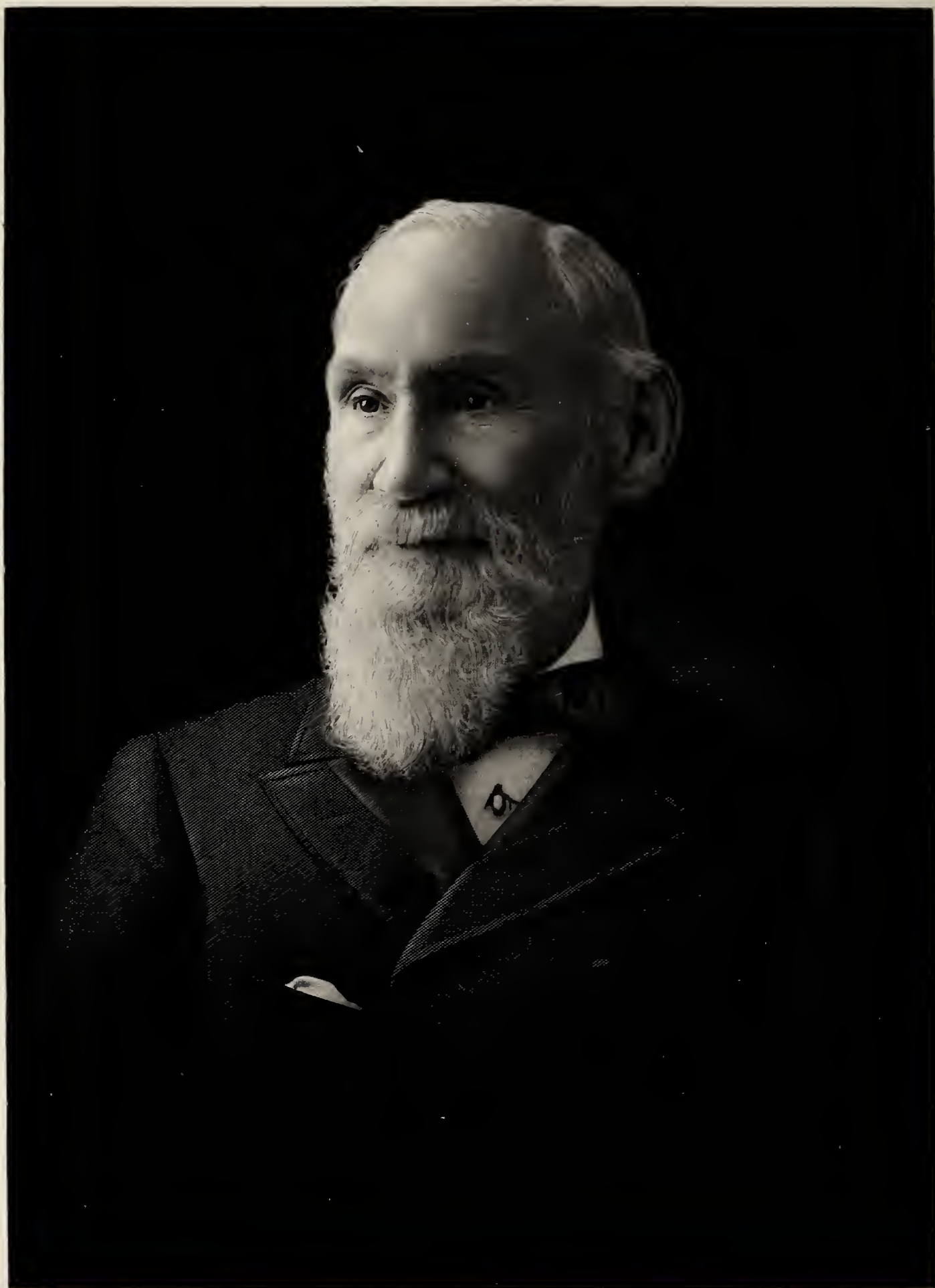
In the year 1853 Mr. Randall was united in marriage to a Miss Perry, of Pennsylvania, who died in 1857. He afterward wedded Miss Stillman, of Erie, Pennsylvania, who passed away in 1868. On the 5th of December, 1872, occurred his marriage to Miss Martha D. Risley, of Will county, who was born in New Hartford, New York, and was brought to Illinois by her father, George W. Risley, in 1860. The father's birth occurred in New Hartford, New York, April 3, 1810, and he was a representative of an old Connecticut family. In pioneer times the Risley family was established in the Empire state and the old home is still standing there. The grandfather of Mr. Risley entered land at New Hartford from the government and performed the arduous task of clearing and developing the tract in order to transform it into cultivable fields. On leaving the Empire state George W. Risley removed to Virginia where he remained for nine years and then came to Illinois, settling in Will county upon a tract of land that now lies partly within the corporation limits of Joliet. For a number of years he carefully, systematically and successfully tilled the soil but at length retired and his last days were spent in Hutchinson, Kansas, where he died in 1880. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Eunice Dakin, was a native of New Hampshire, born at New Ipswich, and she, too, represented an old New England family that removed to New Hartford, New York. Her father was an attorney but in later years retired from law practice, remaining a resident of the Empire state, however, until his death in 1843. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Risley was celebrated at New Hartford and unto them were born seven children. Mrs. Randall, still makes her home in Joliet and is highly esteemed in that city where

she has now resided for more than a half century. She has long survived her husband who passed away in 1889. He had within the period of his residence here taken not only an active but also a most helpful part in promoting public progress. He voted with the democratic party because of a stalwart belief in its principles, and in 1860 he was chosen state elector on the Douglas ticket. He represented his district in the state legislature and was serving on the committee of banks and corporations at the time the charters of the Illinois Central Railroad, the Rock Island and the Chicago & Alton Railroads were passed upon. He ever favored improvement and progress and his efforts for the benefit of the community were of a practical and resultant character. His fellow townsmen ever found him a courteous, genial gentleman and one who had the highest regard for the rights and interests of others. His life work and activities were a factor in the progress and upbuilding of Joliet and his memory is yet honored and cherished by all who knew him.









*Francis Low*

## Francis Low



THROUGH a period coextensive with that of the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten Francis Low was a resident of Illinois. He arrived at the present site of Havana in 1836 and with the history of development and progress in that section of the state his name was closely associated to the time of his death, in 1906. He was born at South Lancaster, now Clinton, Massachusetts, September 23, 1813, a son of Nathaniel and Annis (Kendall) Low, both of whom were descendants of noted early New England families. The father was a well known manufacturer who also had farming interests. Amid the virile surroundings and tutored in the sterling principles of a New England home, Francis Low was reared and the characteristic New England appreciation of the value of education was manifest in the opportunities afforded him. He attended Frye's Private School, a noted institution of Berlin, Massachusetts, until the death of his parents threw him upon his own resources at a comparatively early age. He was in his nineteenth year when in company with his two older brothers, Thomas and Eliphaz, he started out to seek a home and fortune in the west, thinking to find better business opportunities in the new and growing section of the country. They resided for a brief period in Cincinnati, Ohio, and afterward became residents of Louisville, Kentucky, where they opened and conducted a store. Still they were not content with their location and again traveled westward by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to St. Louis, which was then a typical frontier town of about six thousand population, mostly French, with saloons and gambling houses predominating, such as were common in a river town in pioneer days. Another removal brought the brothers to Illinois in the fall of 1836. Four years had passed since they left New England and Francis Low now became definitely located in the establishment of his home at Havana. For sixty-four years he remained a resident of the city, belonging to that class of progressive, enterprising and determined pioneer settlers who laid the foundation for the present greatness of the commonwealth and yearly promoted its growth, advancement and prosperity by their earnest and discriminating labors and their loyalty and trustworthiness in citizenship.

Havana was at that time a small town but was feeling the stimulus of the spirit of enterprise prevalent throughout the middle Mississippi valley. Mr. Low took advantage of the business opportunities here offered and became connected with agricultural interests and the real-estate business, opening up, developing and improving a number of new farms. He also dealt quite largely in real estate on his own account and likewise became a factor in industrial circles, for in partnership with his brother and Pulaski Scoville he built a steam sawmill which was operated for some time. Just across the river from Havana were large oak and walnut forests in which the timber was cut and then rafted to the mill, where it was converted into lumber to supply the local trade, while shipments were also made to Alton and St. Louis. About that time a railroad was being built from Naples and Meredosia to Jacksonville, this being the first in the Mississippi valley. The partners in the sawmill secured the contract for sawing the lumber used by the road and they supplied ties which were made of the choicest selected timber. As the years went on and Francis Low prospered in his undertaking he kept adding to his landed interests, recognizing the fact that real-estate is the safest of all investments. From time to time he purchased farms and concentrated his energies more and more largely upon agricultural pursuits. He became an extensive wheat raiser and shipped the product of his fields by flatboat to St. Louis, often making the trip down the river in that way. His business interests grew in volume and importance until he became one of the foremost representatives of agricultural and commercial interests in his section of the state.

With all of his increasing personal activities Mr. Low did not fail to take active and helpful part in works of a public character resulting beneficially to the community. He was instrumental in the construction of the railroad from Pekin to Jacksonville called the Illinois River road and now known as the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis. He was one of the directors of the company and its treasurer and eventually became its president. In 1875 he organized the Havana National Bank, which was a strong and prosperous institution, of which he remained president throughout its existence. The bank paid ten per cent dividends and it had the remarkable record of declaring a dividend each year from its organization.

Mr. Low was married twice. In 1841 he wedded Hannah Noble, of Havana, Illinois, and unto them were born three sons, only one of whom is living, Thomas F. Low. On the 27th of December, 1859, Mr. Low was again married, his second union being with Fannie Mann, a daughter of John and Alice (Brooks) Mann, of Republic,

Ohio, and a relative of Rev. Phillips Brooks, of Worcester, Massachusetts, and of John Mann, a soldier of the Revolutionary war. On both the paternal and maternal sides Mrs. Low is descended from old colonial families of New England and is eligible as a member of the Colonial Dames. In 1900 Mr. Low retired from active business life and removed to Oak Park, Illinois, an attractive suburb of Chicago, there building a beautiful home. He now had leisure to enjoy such things as were a matter of interest and recreation to him and his days were happily passed to the time of his death in 1906. His widow still occupies the home and is one of the highly esteemed residents of Oak Park. In his passing the city lost one of her representative and honored men. In politics he was a republican but had never been an active politician in the usually accepted sense of the term, although he served as deputy sheriff of Tazewell county for one term and for two terms was sheriff of Mason county. He took an active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of town and county and became widely known among leading men of this state, especially those who were its founders and active in shaping its history. He enjoyed an intimate acquaintance with Abraham Lincoln and others of distinction. He loved travel and during forty years of his life spent many summers and winters in that way, during which time he visited every state in the Union. Few men know their country as thoroughly as he did or are more conversant with its natural beauties. He was a lover of nature, enjoying mountain climbing and many a summer day found him in the Rockies or alone with his guide in the heart of the White mountains. His friends found him a most congenial and hospitable host when they visited him at his Havana home. The admirable traits of manhood were his in large measure. He was a lover of poetry and scientific reading and his tastes were artistic. By nature he was kindly, genial and generous and wherever he went he drew men to him in ties of friendship that naught but death could sever. He passed away January 22, 1906, but it will be long ere his memory has passed from the minds of men. Although he reached the ninety-second milestone on life's journey he never seemed to have reached the stage which the poet Holmes has described as the "sear and yellow leaf." He was always young in spirit and though the suns of many winters rested on his head the tides of spring were in his heart.



## Joseph Braun



JOSEPH BRAUN stood for many years at the head of an important manufacturing enterprise of Joliet, being secretary and treasurer of the Porter Brewing Company. He contributed much to the upbuilding of this business and the careful, conservative methods which he introduced proved an even balance to the progressive spirit which was a feature in the conduct of the undertaking. Mr. Braun was a native of Naperville, Illinois, born September 16, 1860. His father, Joseph Braun, Sr., was a native of Erbaeh, Wurttemberg, Germany, born on the 27th of May, 1837. The first eighteen years of his life were spent in that country and he then came to the United States, thinking to find better and broader business opportunities in the new world. He lived at different places in America until 1859, when he went to Naperville where he was brew master for a time. At length he came to Joliet in 1861 and accepted the position of clerk in Stenger's brewery. Later in connection with Joseph Braun, who was of the same name but not a relative, he built the Columbia Brewery which he conducted until February, 1868, when he sold the business to F. Sehring. That constituted the starting point of the present Sehring Brewery, one of the largest productive industries of the city. Before it passed out of the hands of Mr. Braun it had become an important undertaking for he was a man of industry, energy and determination and established his business on such a basis that excellent results were attained.

Joseph Braun, whose name introduces this review, was the only child in a large family that grew to manhood. He was a little lad at the time of the removal to Joliet and in the schools of this city he pursued his studies. After putting aside his text-books he became connected with the brewing business, being employed for a short time in the Sehring Brewery which had been established by his father. He was afterward connected with a clothing store for a brief period and in 1870 in connection with Mr. Raub he purchased the Brooks clothing store which they conducted under the firm style of Braun & Raub for about fourteen years. They enjoyed a liberal and well merited patronage but at the end of that time Mr. Braun sold his interests to his partner and again returned to the brewing business, becoming

associated with the Porter Brewing Company in organizing a new stock company. The plant had previously been conducted under the name of the Porter Brewery but after the reorganization of the business the name of the Porter Brewing Company was assumed and Mr. Braun was made secretary and treasurer. He continued in that position until his death, which occurred on the 31st of October, 1908. In the meantime the undertaking had grown to extensive proportions under his management for he was considered one of the most capable men in his line in the city. He recognized the fact that success must have its root in the accomplishment of maximum results through minimum effort, but while he avoided all needless waste and expenditure of time, labor and material he never sacrificed quality for quantity nor did he ever lower the standard of his business integrity.

On the 8th of October, 1882, Mr. Braun was united in marriage to Miss Theresa Stoos, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Anna (Hos-singer) Stoos, who were natives of Alsace, Germany. Her father came to the United States when a young man and settled in Joliet where he began business as a carpenter and contractor, being thus identified with building operations in that city up to the time of his demise. Mr. and Mrs. Braun became the parents of seven children, namely: Ida; Julius J.; Alma, who married Albert Lyons, of Joliet, Illinois; Henriette; Margaret; Robert; and Maria.

Mr. Braun held membership with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and other organizations. He belonged also to St. John's Catholic church and took a very active and helpful part in its work, contributing generously to its support and cooperating in the movements for its upbuilding. He was president of the Western Catholic Union and very prominent in the work of that organization. He became one of its charter members and for nearly twenty years served as its president and was supreme vice president of the state. In a word he did everything in his power to further the interests of Catholicism and his efforts in behalf of his church were far-reaching and effective. In matters of citizenship he manifested a progressive spirit that led to his identification with many movements for the general good. He saw the opportunities for growth and progress here and he labored for results that would prove of permanent benefit.





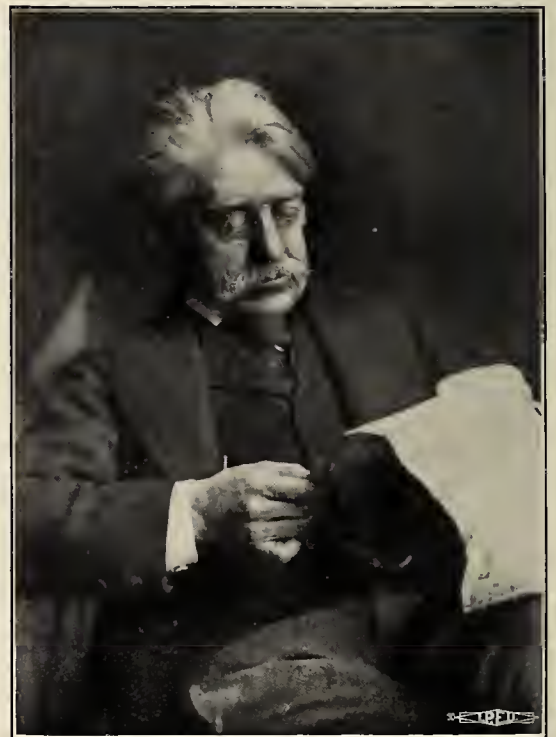
JOHN D. CATON



NINIAN EDWARDS



C. B. FARWELL



HENRY DEMAREST LLOYD

## Ninian Edwards



PROMINENT figure in the early history of Illinois was that of Ninian Edwards. He was born in Maryland, March 17, 1775, and educated at Dickinson College. At the age of nineteen he emigrated to Kentucky where he studied law and entered upon the practice of his profession. He rose step by step until he became chief justice of the court of appeals.

In 1809, President Madison appointed him the first territorial governor of Illinois, which office he held until the admission of Illinois into the Union in the year 1818, when he was elected United States senator. In 1826 he was elected governor of the state, and remained in that office until 1830.

Soon after he became governor of the territory the Indians of the Illinois country became troublesome. In a message to the assembly he referred to the situation but made no suggestions as to the policy which should be adopted. The white population of the territory when he entered upon his office in 1809 had been estimated to be about nine thousand, while the number of Indians, who occupied the larger portion of the country, was supposed to be about eighteen thousand; so that if the tribes should have become generally hostile and united, they might have overwhelmed the whites completely.

However, Governor Edwards acted promptly when an emergency arose, and by his orders companies of militia, called "Rangers," attacked and destroyed several Indian villages, without much regard to their hostility or friendliness, in the neighborhood of Peoria lake, and elsewhere during the fall of 1812. The settlers were so much exasperated against the red men that they did not take much pains to discriminate between friends or foes. The battle of Tippecanoe had been fought in the previous November, in which the Indians suffered a severe defeat, but on the 18th of June, 1812, war had been declared by the United States against Great Britain, and the tribes generally sympathized with the British and received encouragement from them. Later in the summer the garrison at Fort Dearborn had evacuated that post but most of them were massacred on the retreat. Thus the unrest among the Indians reached an acute stage which called for vigorous measures on the part of the territorial executive.

The "Rangers," however, carried on an aggressive campaign. All the troops that could be mustered up for the war against the Indians were about three hundred and fifty men. Governor Edwards was the commander and under him were brave and enterprising officers, one of whom was Captain Samuel Judy whose company of scouts were the terror of the Indians. On one occasion an Indian and his squaw approached the advance under Captain Judy's company for the purpose of an interview, and were mercilessly shot down, the captain explaining his cruel action by saying that he and his scouts had not left their homes merely to take prisoners. To show the temper of the whites in these wars with the tribes we note that Governor Reynolds in his history comments upon these operations as "doing much good in checking the aggressions of the Indians."

A treaty with the Indians was concluded at St. Louis on August 24, 1816, between Ninian Edwards, governor of Illinois Territory, William Clark, governor of Missouri Territory and Auguste Chouteau, a citizen of St. Louis, on the part of the United States; and the chiefs and warriors of the Ottawas, Chippewas, and Pottawattomies, on the part of those tribes. This treaty ceded a tract of land in which a large portion of the city of Chicago is now located.

Edwards county in Illinois was formed during the territorial period, November 28, 1814, and named in honor of the governor. In a sketch of Edwards, E. B. Washburne says of him: "Able, independent, outspoken he disdained all the acts of the ordinary politician: never descended to the low level of the demagogue, nor appealed to the passions or prejudices of the people." Although he has been charged with having aristocratic tendencies he was magnanimous and incorruptible. His son, Ninian W. Edwards, married Elizabeth P. Todd, a sister of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. A daughter married Daniel P. Cook, an eminent statesman of the time, a sketch of whom is given elsewhere.

Ninian Edwards died at his home in Belleville, on July 20, 1833, of cholera, the disease having been contracted through self-sacrificing efforts to assist sufferers from the epidemic.

## John Dean Caton



THE first term of the circuit court held in Cook county was in May, 1834. On this occasion John D. Caton, then a young man just entering upon the practice of law, had a case before the court and in later years he related that he remembered that the case was "Number one on the docket of the circuit court of Cook county," and he believed that this was "the first case ever tried in Chicago in any court of record."

In 1871, Judge Caton made his last appearance in court. It was at the trial of a case in the Cook county circuit court, held at Chicago on July 26th, of that year. At the conclusion of his argument in the case, Judge Caton took occasion to refer to the early days of his practice. "It is now more than thirty-eight years," he said, "since I commenced my professional career in the little hamlet where this great city now stands. Its site was then covered with wild grass, or native and tangled shrubs, while the river was broadly bordered with aquatic vegetation, leaving a deep channel along its center of clear and wholesome water, which was used exclusively for culinary and drinking purposes. Our two hundred and fifty persons were sheltered in rude cabins or small dwellings, and our only streets consisted of winding tracks along the banks of the river, or leading away to the interior.

"Clients were then scarce, but as there were but two of us to do the business, the only rivalry between us was as to who could most zealously serve his client with the greatest courtesy and kindness to each other. The late Judge Spring, who was then my social companion and my only professional competitor, has long since closed his professional career, and passed beyond the precincts of earthly courts, but not until he saw gathered around him a bar distinguished for numbers as well as for its learning. How great the change which these few years have wrought! How few are left of those who lived here then! Their numbers can be told on the fingers of a single hand. With what a throng are their places filled, among whom they are scarcely missed, except by a few old friends who knew them long ago.

"The village has grown into a great city, where hundreds of thousands are hastening with busy steps through the thronged streets, intent upon the accomplishment of individual enterprises, which ag-

gregate into a great whole and make the wonder of the commercial world. \* \* \* This, then, was the only court of record to settle the suits of contending parties, and a single judge, in three days' session, could close the business of the year. Now, seven judges, in almost perpetual session, are unequal to the task.

"Judge Young was your honor's first predecessor, and he here held the first court of record in which I ever appeared professionally. Governor Ford was the States' Attorney in attendance, and also from abroad appeared Ben. Mills, whose smooth flow of eloquence exceeded that of any man to whom I ever listened. There was also William L. May, of Springfield, and James M. Strode, of Galena. James H. Collins had now joined our ranks at home, and he, with Mr. Spring and myself, then represented in this court the Chicago bar. Though their numbers were but few, many of them have filled large pages in the history of our state, and their names will long be remembered even outside our professional circle. I succeeded Judge Ford upon the supreme bench when he was elected governor, less than ten years after the time of which I speak, and I sat upon that bench with Judge Young after he had served a term in the senate of the United States; and, in 1846, I sat upon the bench which your honor now occupies, in his place, when he was kept away by sickness. Of all these not one is left! I was the youngest of them all, and I stand here alone, the last representative of the court and bar of Chicago of thirty-eight years ago."

In the reminiscent address of Judge Caton here referred to a striking contrast is drawn, between the two periods of which he speaks, the period of the early '30s in Chicago and the year 1871. It was less than three months before the great fire in Chicago when he made this address. "It seems to me but as yesterday," he continued, "when we all first met together in an unfinished loft of the old Mansion House, just north of where the Tremont now stands; and yet the changes about us have been such as, in other times and other countries, centuries would not have accomplished. \* \* \*

"The incident to which I have referred may serve to explain why I have felt a desire, after a lapse of thirty years, to appear again, and, probably for the last time in this court, in the simple capacity of a lawyer. Here I commenced my professional life; in this court I first appeared as an advocate. This was the first court of record which I ever addressed, and before it I first addressed a jury. The place, too, has its pleasing associations. Although for many years official duties required my residence in another city, yet Chicago was my first western home, and has ever seemed more than half a home to me.

The uniform kindness, cordiality and support which I have ever received from her citizens, as well those who came after I left as those who were my neighbors before, have made me always feel at home here; and the respect and consideration which the bar of this city has ever manifested toward me have most keenly touched my sensibilities, and left an indelible impression on my mind. Again have I appeared in the Cook county circuit court, and have done the best I could respecting a client's cause. Again have I received a patient and attentive hearing, and now with gratified satisfaction I retire, deeply sensible of the indulgence shown me, wishing your honor and my professional brethren long and happy lives, crowned with honor and usefulness."

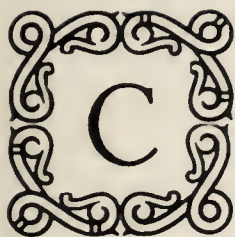
John Dean Caton, lawyer and jurist, was born in Monroe county, New York, March 19, 1812. Left to the care of a widowed mother at an early age, his childhood was spent in poverty and manual labor. He attended the academy at Utica where he studied law between the ages of nineteen and twenty-one. In 1833, he removed to Chicago, and soon afterward he was licensed to practice law.

When in 1837 it was proposed to incorporate Chicago as a city young Caton was chosen a member of a committee to prepare a draft of a city charter which was adopted by popular vote, and authorized by an act of the legislature, March 4, 1837. The other members of the committee of five who drew the charter were, Ebenezer Peek, Theophilus W. Smith, Peter Bolles, and William B. Ogden. Mr. Caton served as an alderman in the newly formed city council, and in 1842 he sat upon the bench of the state supreme court, and remained in that position for twenty-two years. During this period he occupied the position of chief justice part of the time.

Later in life Judge Caton became interested in the construction of telegraph lines, having in the meantime changed his place of residence to Ottawa. The telegraph system bore the name of the "Caton Lines," which eventually were merged with the Western Union Telegraph Company. Mr. Caton acquired a large fortune in the course of his business operations, and on retiring from the supreme bench he devoted the remainder of his life to his private affairs, to travel, and to literary labors. Among his published works are "A Summer in Norway," "Miscellanies," and "Early Bench and Bar of Illinois." Judge Caton died in Chicago, July 30, 1895, in the eighty-fourth year of his age.



## Charles B. Farwell



HARLES B. FARWELL'S residence in Chicago began in January, 1844, when he arrived from Ogle county in Illinois, where his father was engaged as a farmer. He was born in New York state, on July 1, 1823, and obtained his education at the Elmira Academy in his native state. From 1849 to 1853 Mr. Farwell was a clerk in the banking house of George Smith, who afterward became a multi-millionaire; and in 1864 he became a partner in his younger brother's wholesale dry-goods firm. Mr. Farwell became active in politics, and in 1870 was elected a member of congress, serving thereafter three terms. In 1887 he was elected United States senator to fill the remainder of the term of John A. Logan, who had died the previous year, thus serving four years in the senate. He continued his connection with the house of John V. Farwell & Company until his death on September 23, 1903.

An undertaking of a unique character was engaged in by the brothers, Charles B. and John V. Farwell, in 1883, which, although it was a gigantic transaction in Texas lands, was distinctly a Chicago enterprise, and is entitled to a place in this history. The state of Texas was the possessor of a vast tract of territory in the "Panhandle," which in the old geographies was described as the "Llano Estacado," or "Staked Plains." The lands thus designated on the maps of that period were considered of little value except for grazing purposes, where herds of long-horned cattle formed the chief product of the country.

"If we can get the man with the money to build our Capitol," it was said, "we will give him all the lands he wants up there," meaning the lands in the Panhandle. The man was found in John V. Farwell, one of Chicago's leading business men, who made the state of Texas a proposition to the effect that he would erect a Capitol building at Austin, the capital city of the state, and take in payment the lands in the Upper Panhandle, a proposition which the state gladly accepted. The land thus acquired by the Farwells, Charles B. Farwell having joined with his brother John in the enterprise, amounted to three million five hundred thousands acres, located in six counties. This was equivalent to an area larger than the state of Con-

necticut, and was appraised at an average of one dollar an acre, at that time considered a liberal valuation for the lands.

The Farwells entered into the contract, and the building was erected to the entire satisfaction of the state authorities, a building that was considered a fair equivalent to an outlay of five millions of dollars. The Capitol building at Austin, it is said, is the seventh largest building in the world, the third largest in the United States, and one of striking architectural beauty. It was honestly built and stands as a monument to the integrity as well as the shrewdness of the men who erected it, and no criticisms have ever been made in regard to it.

The proprietors of the lands thus acquired have profited by this transaction "beyond the dreams of avarice." Lands in the Panhandle began to be sought for and the prices rose by degrees, though land was always for sale at a fair market value. The extensive tracts over which great herds of cattle formerly ranged were reduced in size and more limited areas were made use of to better purpose in the care of improved stock, and, later still, large sections of the lands were divided into farms which have since become highly productive.

Towns sprang up in numerous places, railroads were built to make an outlet for the products of the lands, and to-day, although more than two-thirds of the entire territory thus acquired by the Farwells has been disposed of at steadily rising prices, there is still left a million or more acres, none of which can be obtained at less than fifteen dollars per acre.

People called the Farwells "visionary" when they closed the bargain for these lands and entered upon the construction of the great building that the state of Texas received in payment for them. "The building and completion of the State Capitol," says C. F. Drake, writing in the *Manufacturers' Record*, "was in itself an undertaking from which most men, even of Mr. Farwell's wealth, would have shrunk, taking the chances to recover his money; and it is doubtless true that he never realized to what great figures his profits would run. It was the largest, perhaps the most unique real estate deal ever consummated in the history of the United States, by which one man acquired title to so vast an area, and drawing so largely upon his imagination, took such immense speculative chances for financial returns."

To-day there stand a large number of towns and cities on this extensive tract, some of them having a population of ten or fifteen thousand inhabitants; there are four railroad lines crossing it, which give transportation facilities to the products of the farms and cattle ranches of the territory within the original tract.

## Henry Demarest Lloyd



FROM the time, when, on the night of his graduation from Columbia University, young Henry Demarest Lloyd attacked the principle of industrial monopoly in his commencement "oration," to the last of his struggles—that for the municipal ownership of Chicago's street railways—his life history is the story of the radical thought of America at the time.

He was born in New York city in 1847, the son of a minister of the Dutch Reformed church. His patriotism and deep religious feeling directed his attention to social reform when he was still very young. In 1872 he came to Chicago, after having participated in active work against the corruption of Tammany in New York. He was given a position on the Chicago Tribune, then under the editorship of Horace White, and his brilliant editorials on financial and industrial questions furnished new material for thinkers and writers all over the country. His work through these years of study and newspaper writing pointed to the fact that the new crusade was not for religious liberty, not for political liberty, but for industrial liberty. As a result of his conviction that a crisis was imminent between the very rich and the poor, he became filled with the idea, says his biographer, "that to organize this struggle was the grandest political mission to which any man or body of men could be committed."

In summarizing Mr. Lloyd's life work a commentator says, "Henry Demarest Lloyd was the pioneer and leader of the great movement that has disillusioned Americans and probably has saved them from an abominable industrial despotism. He began at a time when the deadly spirit of complacency and self-satisfaction (which for some reason is supposed to be patriotic) was most upon us; and after he had lighted up the situation as it really was, his countrymen were never again able to ignore it. He planted the seed; his fortune, very unusual in such men, was to see the tilth in a thousand places and in ways of which he had never dreamed.

"One could hardly reconstruct in one's mind now the conditions that existed when Mr. Lloyd came upon the stage. The belief in the loveliness and perfection of everything was almost universal and unchallenged. All the records (and results) of rapid fortune-making

were joyously accepted as so many evidences of the country's greatness and superior qualities. Strange as it may now seem, we actually looked upon the swelling monopolies with pride; they were evidences of American 'smartness'; and we were prepared to resent any reflections upon the methods of sacred business as implying a lack of the proper devotion to one's country. No man, therefore, could have addressed a more unpromising audience than that to which Mr. Lloyd first spoke and no man could have addressed it more wisely."

In the *Atlantic Monthly* for March, 1881, was published an article by Mr. Lloyd called "The Story of a Great Monopoly," in which he presented the evils wrought by the railroads and attacked the Standard Oil Company. It was the first time monopoly had had so open and complete an attack, and the charges he made were unanswerable. This article and succeeding ones opened the eyes of thousands of people, and owing to their accurate, carefully set forth facts and conclusions, the events of the times were interpreted in a new light.

In 1886 Chicago was the scene of a terrible manifestation of the unrest and disturbance which had spread over the country as a result of the conflict between capital and labor. The Haymarket riot and bomb-throwing occurred in 1886, and a year and a half later four anarchists were hanged as a punishment, being innocently condemned as is generally agreed today. At the time of the trial of the anarchists Lloyd defended them, publicly and actively. What of courage and heroism this meant at a time when the sensational conduct of the trial, the fury of the press and the fearless speeches of the prisoners had terrorized the country, no one but those who braved the prejudice and popular ignorance of those days can know. When only a few beside the workers had not lost their judicial sense and had courage to protest, Lloyd was also one who later, bravely came out to plead for the pardoning of those anarchists whose death sentences had been commuted to imprisonment. This course demanded of him the finest courage, alienating as it did many friends, and placing him on a lonely though splendid promontory of political and social views.

In countless ways he helped the cause of labor and built up a new conscience in American life. He did splendid devoted work in the late '80s for the locked-out miners of Spring Valley, Illinois, and wrote a rousing article in their behalf which he called "A Strike of Millionaires Against Miners"; he worked for the strikers at the time of the Pullman strike of 1894; he was active in arranging the Labor Congress at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893; in the midst of his struggle against the issuing of a street railway franchise inimical to the interests of the public of Chicago, he died in 1903.

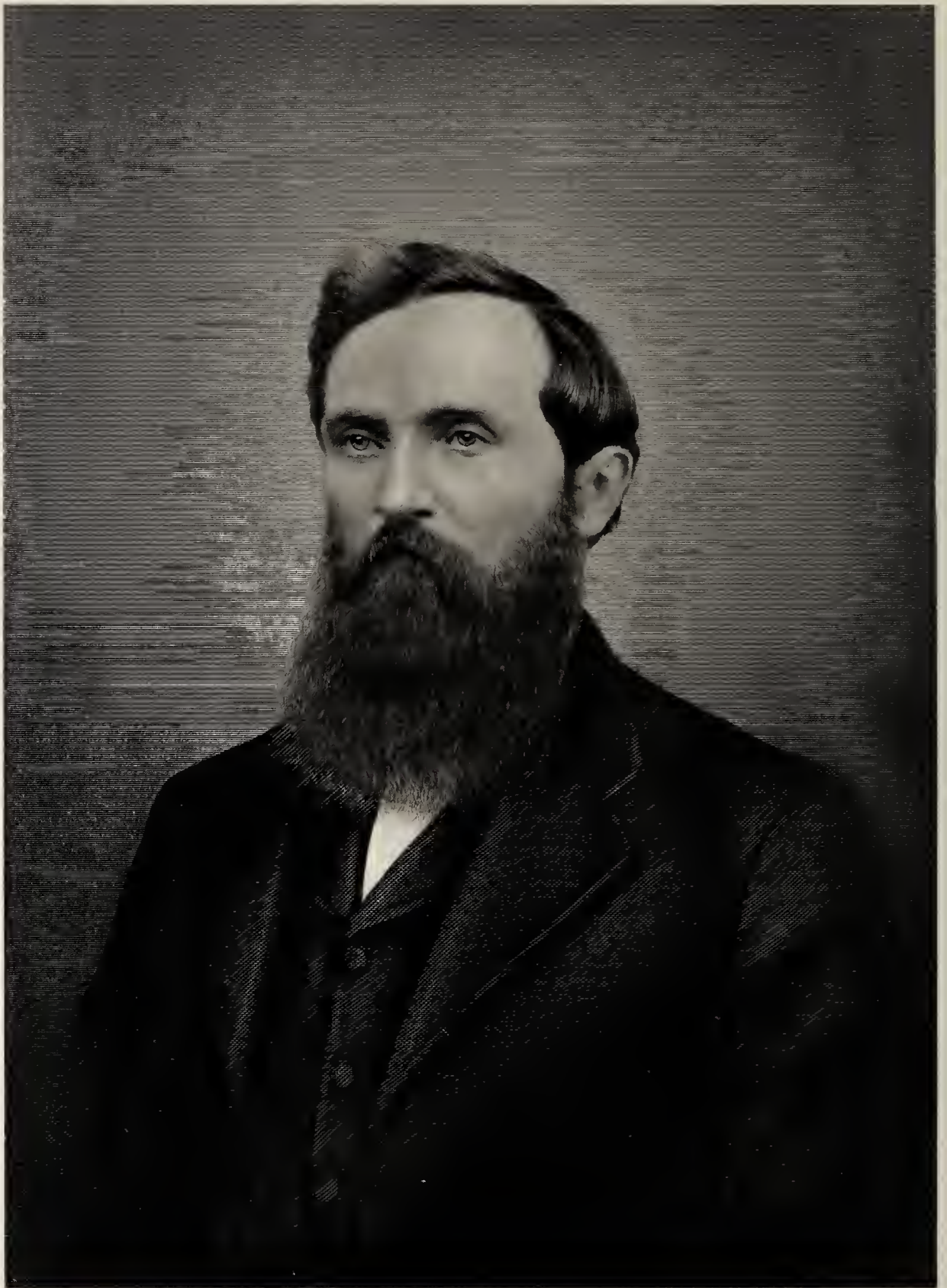
As a last word from this one who is among the finest examples of an American citizen, it is well to quote a bit from his Labor Day speech of 1898:

“On some Labor Day a new spiritual revelation will descend on the congregation of the workers, which will revoke the ancient curse against labor, and in setting all to labor for others as they would that others should labor for them, will make labor free, fruitful and reciprocal, and therefore the greatest of earthly blessings, the surest foundation of law and order, and the highest act of worship in the religion of love and the golden rule, making man the creator of a diviner life ‘on earth as it is in heaven’.”









*Bennet Humiston*

## Bennet Humiston



AMERICA is ready to accord the fact that the strongest, best and most virile strain in her citizenship has come from New England. Conditions were such there in the dawn of American history, as to draw out and develop those qualities which count for most as factors in the world's work and the descendants of New England's native sons have featured largely in the upbuilding and progress of the middle west. Livingston county, Illinois, owes not a little of her progress to that class of men who came to her from New England, including Bennet Humiston, who was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, September 6, 1830. He represented an old English family early founded on American soil and actively connected with the work of development and improvement in that section of the country as the years went on. The father also bore the name of Bennet Humiston, and was born in Litchfield county, while the mother, who bore the maiden name of Emily Warner, was likewise a native of that part of the state.

The boyhood and youth of Bennet Humiston was passed in the uneventful round of farm life—a long season of labor in the fields and a shorter season of educational training in the public schools. Later he had the opportunity of attending a private academy at Warren, continuing, however, to live with his parents until he attained his majority. The year 1852 witnessed his arrival in Illinois. He had been persuaded to seek a home in the middle west through the influence of his old-time friend, Apollos Camp, who in the previous year had removed to Livingston county for the benefit of his health. Mr. Humiston and Mr. Camp became owners of an entire section of land in Esmen township, the greater part of which had as yet not been placed under the plow, being covered with native prairie grasses. The following spring Mr. Camp was joined by his wife and son but his daughter Harriet remained in the east to continue her education, joining the family a year and a half later. Following her arrival in Illinois she attracted the favorable and interested attention of Mr. Humiston, who sought her hand in marriage and on the 22d of May, 1856, they were united in the holy bonds of wedlock. They began their domestic life on the farm adjoining her father's property and

there Mr. Humiston continued to give his attention to the cultivation and improvement of the fields and to stock-raising, both branches of his business bringing to him success. In 1876 he removed to Pontiac and while living in that city managed his important agricultural and business interests. He became prominently known as a breeder of Norman horses, cattle and hogs. He took great interest and felt great pride in his beautiful thoroughbred horses and at times owned one hundred or more. He maintained a high standard of stock-raising and won wide reputation as a breeder, his opinions being accepted as authority on matters of stock-raising in his section of the state for many years. In other matters of business, too, his judgment was sound and his discrimination keen. He had comprehensive knowledge of realty values and his investments were made with rare wisdom and discretion. He added to his original holdings from time to time until he became the owner of sixteen hundred acres of land, all still in the possession of his widow who likewise inherited a considerable acreage from her father. A contemporary biographer has written: "The people of Pontiac have a continuous reminder of this early landsman and his partner, Mr. Camp, for three additions to the city have been platted from the land, to the cultivation of which they devoted their rugged energies. In 1875 Mr. Humiston erected the family residence which was the most beautiful and costly home at that time in Livingston county. As a landmark it is invested with the distinction of long association with passing events and about its lines is a certain pride and nobility attainable only by the things that are strong, dependable and useful."

Mrs. Humiston was always the active associate of her husband, interested in what he was accomplishing, her zeal and interest proving, at least in part, his inspiration. She was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, was liberally educated in one of the good schools of the east, and has ever been deeply interested in things intellectual. One biographer has said of her: "Her whole life has responded to advantages for the cultivation of heart and intellect and she is one of the rarest exponents of well directed and practical philanthropy. The proper use of wealth has been one of her profoundest considerations and the extent of her benefactions probably never will be known save by those who have directly profited by them. For the grounds and building of the Young Men's Christian Association she donated upwards of twenty-six thousand dollars (and has promised five hundred dollars for the current year) and she also gave a property to be used as an Episcopal rectory. It is doubtful if any wise appeal for her interest and practical cooperation goes unheeded and she is well

beloved for her timely assistance in the case of young people handicapped in their ambitions by poverty or other limitations. It would seem that love for humankind is the dominant note in her personality and this she exhales in her individual deeds and her every day of life."

Mr. Humiston was a prominent member of Odell Lodge, F. & A. M., and in his life exemplified its beneficent and helpful spirit. His political allegiance was given to the democratic party but he had little or no desire for the honors and emoluments of office. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his ability, called him to the position of alderman and he discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity. He was always greatly interested in educational, material, political and moral progress in his community and his support of any measure was a factor in its promotion. He attended the Episcopal church and gave to the support of that and other moral agencies. He died on November 15, 1883.

His entire life history proves conclusively what may be accomplished when one has the will to dare and to do. An old Greek philosopher living centuries ago said: "Earn thy reward, the gods give naught to sloth." The truth of this admonition finds verification today just as it did before the Christian era. Industry is the source of all honorable success and this fact, recognized by Mr. Humiston, caused him to put forth determined and persistent effort so that he overcame all difficulties and obstacles in his path and worked his way steadily upward. He was charitably inclined and as he prospered gave generously of his means in assisting the poor and needy. The story of many good deeds is told to his credit, showing that his life reached out in kindly sympathy and helpfulness to those less fortunate. He is yet remembered by many of the older citizens of his locality, all of whom speak of him in those terms which characterize the life of an honorable, upright man.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Humiston has resided continuously in Pontiac and has valuable property interests in this part of the state and in other parts of the country. She still owns a section of land in Canada, a section and a half in Iowa, one hundred and twenty acres in Minnesota and property at Eldorado Springs, Missouri, three-quarters of a section in Indiana and about twenty-five hundred acres in Livingston county. Mrs. Humiston manages this vast estate herself, being a lady of exceptional business ability, enterprise and sound judgment. She has been a generous assistant of many of the public facilities and enterprises of Pontiac and is considered one of the most charitable of its residents. In addition to

her extensive property holdings she also owns bank stock and stock in the shoe factories in Pontiac. She also owns some valuable mining stock and her powers are fully adequate to the control of her business affairs.



## George L. Kern



FOR many years George L. Kern was a grocer of Dwight and his investments in property there made him one of the most substantial residents of the city. There were no spectacular chapters in his life history, but the substantial qualities of industry, determination and honesty were strongly manifest. Illinois numbered him among her native sons, for his birth occurred in Ottawa, La Salle county, December 31, 1860. His father, Michael Kern, was a native of Baden Baden, Germany, and the mother, Mrs. Sophia Kern, was also born in that country. The former learned and followed the shoemaker's trade in early life and afterward engaged in the grocery business in Dwight. He came to America in early manhood, settling in Ottawa, but afterward removed to Dwight, where he died about the year 1899. His widow is still a resident of that city.

George L. Kern was the second in a family of twelve children and was quite young at the time of the removal of the family to Dwight, so that his education was acquired there. In his youthful days he became his father's assistant in the store and was thus employed until eighteen years of age, when he formed a partnership with another young man and established a grocery business on his own account. This relation was continued until 1884, when Mr. Kern purchased his partner's interest, remaining in active connection with the grocery trade until 1904. In the meantime he had become interested in the grain trade and became the owner of an elevator in 1900. Four years later he disposed of his grocery store and concentrated his energies upon the elevator business, in which he remained until 1910. He then sold the business, rented the elevator and again entered mercantile circles as a grocer, conducting his store with growing and gratifying success to the time of his death, which occurred on the 12th of February, 1912. As he prospered in his undertakings he made judicious investments in real estate, becoming an extensive owner of city property in Dwight and also of Minnesota farm lands. In business matters his judgment was sound, his insight keen and his enterprise unfaltering, and the methods he employed in the attainment of success were such as would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

On the 29th of January, 1883, Mr. Kern was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Muenster, who was born in Streator, Illinois, on the 12th of May, 1863, a daughter of Nicholas and Anna Elizabeth (Blockard) Muenster, the former a native of Baden Baden and the latter of Hessen, Germany. The father made farming his life work. Coming to America at an early age, he settled on a farm near Streator, Illinois, where he continued to make his home until his death, which occurred in 1894. His widow survived him for about sixteen years, passing away in 1910, having in the meantime lived with a daughter in Streator. While in Germany Mr. Muenster had served in the regular army. Mrs. Kern was the elder of their two children and by her marriage became the mother of three sons. George M. N., born October 12, 1883, married Helen Coleman and became his father's successor in the grocery business in Dwight. Henry W., born October 30, 1885, is a practicing physician of Kankakee. Arthur P., born October 1, 1888, is engaged in clerking in his brother's grocery store.

Mr. Kern held membership in the Lutheran church and was interested in its growth and welfare. His early political allegiance was given to the democratic party but a change in his political views led him later to support the republican party. He served on the town board as alderman for the second ward for one term but was never a politician in the sense of office seeking. He held membership with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America but more than all else was devoted to his home and family, finding his greatest happiness in promoting the welfare and interests of his wife and children. He also delighted to dispense the hospitality of his own home to his friends, who found him a genial, courteous host. He enjoyed an unassailable reputation in the business circles of his town and death called one of the leading and substantial citizens of Dwight when George L. Kern passed away in 1912.

## Christopher W. Sterry



FOR forty-four years Christopher W. Sterry was a resident of Livingston county, arriving in 1857, and through an extended period was connected with agricultural interests, but his last days were spent in retirement from business cares in Pontiae. He was a native of the state of Maine, his birth having occurred near Stark, August 12, 1826, his parents being Samuel and Hannah (Harding) Sterry. The father was also born in Maine, while the mother's birth occurred near Cape Cod. He made farming his life work and always remained a resident of New England.

In his youthful days Christopher W. Sterry was a pupil in the district schools of the Pine Tree State. He was the youngest of a large family and was but eleven months old at the time of his father's death. When a little lad of eight years he went to live with a family by whom he was illy treated, so that after a few years he left there and sought employment in a woolen mill at Lowell, Massachusetts. The year 1852 witnessed his arrival in the middle west, at which time he made his way to Chicago, where he engaged in the coal business. In 1857, however, he took up his abode upon a farm in Essman township, Livingston county, and continued to make his home in that township until he retired from agricultural life. Prospering in his undertakings, he became the owner of two hundred and sixty acres of valuable farm land, which is still in possession of his widow. Year by year he tilled the soil and brought the fields under a high state of cultivation, so that good crops were harvested and the farm became a profitable investment. In 1886 Mr. Sterry removed to Pontiae owing to the death of a brother who had passed away in New Orleans and had made him heir to his estate, this necessitating Mr. Sterry giving most of his time to the care of the estate. He was thus engaged until his death, which occurred on the 8th of January, 1901. While his early youth was fraught with toil, privations and hardships, in his later years he enjoyed prosperity with all that it means in the way of providing comforts and freedom from care and worry.

On the 8th of October, 1861, Mr. Sterry was united in marriage to Miss Mary C. Ross, who was born near Springfield, in Clark county, Ohio, February 12, 1836, a daughter of John and Catharine (Kaiser)

Ross, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Pennsylvania. The father, who was a lifelong farmer, removed to Ohio when a young man and in 1851 came to Illinois, settling in Sangamon county, near Springfield, where he made his home upon a farm until the time of his death in 1865. The mother passed away about 1862. Mr. Ross had been a soldier of the War of 1812 and was one of the few veterans of that struggle living in Illinois. Mrs. Sterry was the third in order of birth in the family of eight children of the father's second marriage, and her education was acquired in the public schools of Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sterry were born six children: Eliza, now the wife of Dr. C. H. Long, of Pontiac; John, who passed away in 1881; Hattie, also deceased; Mary Elizabeth, the wife of E. M. Kirkpatrick, a real-estate dealer of Palmer, Idaho; Josephine, deceased; and Jessie, the wife of C. B. Hurtt, who is engaged in the real-estate business in Portland, Oregon.

Mr. Sterry was devoted to his home and was a man who in every relation of life commanded and merited the confidence and respect of those with whom he came in contact. His early political support was given to the republican party but later his pronounced views on the temperance question led him to give his allegiance to the prohibition party. He held some local township offices while residing upon the farm and at all times was loyal to the best interests of the community. His life principles had their root in his Christian faith and he was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was never known to take advantage of another in business affairs, was always honorable and straightforward and left an untarnished name coupled with the memory of good deeds.





A. H. Van Epps

## William H. Van Epps



IGH on the roll of Dixon's honored citizens appears the name of William H. Van Epps, whose influence was always a beneficial factor in shaping the history of the city and promoting its progress along those lines which contribute most to the upbuilding of the race. He was born in Schenectady, New York, April 12, 1812, and came of a family of Dutch ancestry, representatives of the name crossing the Atlantic from Amsterdam, Holland, and settling in New York city at an early period in the history of the United States. Subsequently a removal was made to Genesee county, New York, by John A. and Deborah (Houseman) Van Epps, parents of William H. Van Epps. The father was a soldier in the War of 1812, serving with the rank of captain. He afterward removed to Genesee county, where he died in 1816, and in 1829 his widow removed to Monroe county, New York. It was in Genesee county that Mr. William H. Van Epps now pursued his education, supplementing a public school course by study in an academy. At a later date he became a student in the Middleburg Academy of Wyoming county, New York. He made his initial step in the business world as a clerk in a store, and in 1837 he bought a stock of goods which he brought to Illinois, opening a general store in Fulton county. He likewise invested in land and became the owner of a flour mill in this state. In 1848 he returned to New York, and was also in the dry-goods business a short time in Cleveland, Ohio, but in 1854 he again came to Illinois, settling in Dixon. In the meantime he had purchased an interest in a mill at Crawfordsville, Indiana. In Dixon he entered commercial circles, establishing a dry-goods store which he conducted until the time of his death. He made this one of the leading mercantile establishments of the city and enjoyed a large trade during his early connection with the business activities in Dixon. He also purchased large tracts of land of the Illinois Central Railroad and devoted much of his time to farming, which he found a profitable source of income and laid out and established the town of Morrison, Illinois. His labors were both directly and indirectly a factor in the upbuilding and progress of his city and county,

and his cooperation could at all times be counted upon to further any movement for the general good.

Mr. Van Epps was twice married. He wedded Charlotte R. Churchill and their only surviving child is William H. Van Epps, Jr., of Dixon. After his first wife's death he married Mary A. Peck and their only surviving child is Mrs. George Steele.

Mr. Van Epps died October 8, 1877, at the age of sixty-five years, closing a life of marked usefulness and activity and within that period he accomplished much more than many a man whose age extends beyond that of the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten. He was identified with many public improvements to city, county and state. In 1856 he became a member of the State Agricultural Board and in 1860 was elected its president, so serving for four years. He was recognized as an authority upon agricultural matters throughout the state. He served as president of the Lee County Agricultural Society and in that connection did much to stimulate progress along agricultural and mechanical lines through the holding of annual fairs that were known as the Farmers and Mechanics Festival. Later, when he became president of the Illinois State Fair he appealed to the pride of his fellow citizens in making this a great agricultural state and delivered a notable address, in which he said:

"Look over the scenes presented right here, at these elegant fair grounds, modeled from a thicket within eighteen months; at these hill-sides, covered over with machinery and every available place filled with some choice product of taste or skill; at these tens of thousands of farmers and artizans with their families assembled to spend a week in learning new lessons of life, to exchange thoughts and courtesies, and, I trust, to pledge themselves anew to the maintenance of those principles of government, and true democratic social conditions, which, under the smiles of Providence have enabled us to realize all these blessings, and then reflect that all this has been nursed and brought to pass in the fourth year of a civil war!—and that Illinois has furnished to the Union armies about one hundred and eighty thousand able-bodied sons, or one-tenth of her entire population in 1860! Where, but in free America, in the Great West, and, shall I say, in the Prairie state, need we look for a parallel?

"On the 5th day of January, 1853, the society holding this exhibition was born. Its parentage is most worthy, and many, if not most of the large-hearted, clear-headed gentlemen who officiated and conducted the ceremonies on that occasion have been kindly dealt with and are now present with us.

"Its career, though not yet in its 'teens,' has, there is reason to believe, been one of incalculable usefulness and its efforts, in conjunction with the State Horticultural and other kindred associations, have kept pace with and in a large degree promoted the marvellous growth and development of the state itself. Whether all has been accomplished that might have been, it is not necessary to discuss.

"Its history is of record down to the close of 1860—as well in published volumes as in the unpublished traces of agricultural and mechanical improvement all over the state.

"More from indifference, almost as culpable as downright opposition, on the part of the Legislature, than from any other cause, the resolution to print the fifth biennial volume of Transactions, failed to pass the senate, having previously passed the house of representatives, and hence the material of great value remains in the hands of the corresponding secretary.

"No such misfortune is likely again to occur, and there is no reason to doubt that the necessary legislation will be had at an early day of the next session.

"I shall not attempt to even enumerate the special efforts of the executive board to meet the responsibilities which have rested upon them during the past four years, but will barely refer to some of them.

"It will be remembered that the condition of the country changed from peace to war in the spring of 1861. Large armies were marshalled and thoughtful and wise men supposed that all branches of industry and especially agriculture, from whose fields the soldiers of the Union must come, would be paralyzed, and that the old historical companion of civil strife—famine—would soon be felt in the land. The question of food supply became at once the most important, and accepting the responsibility of their position, the board immediately directed the machinery of the society to stimulating the invention of labor-saving farm implements. The amount theretofore offered in premiums in the mechanical department was more than trebled, and those who saw it will long remember the display of implements and machinery at the fair of that year in Chicago as far more extensive than any of its predecessors.

"In the following year, at Dixon, was held a field trial of harvesting machinery, pronounced by competent judges more complete in its conduct and arrangements than any before that time held in the United States. The list of competitors was large, and of the results we may speak without boasting. Those implements, covering your beautiful slope, are, in many of their best and most important devices, so many fruits of that exhibition, elaborated and brought to perfec-

tion by the intelligence, ingenuity and enterprise of their worthy inventors.

"In 1863, at this city, the board held another field trial, confined chiefly to instruments used in the preparation of the soil and the after-culture of crops—not less successful nor less decisive in its results than the former. Nearly everything presented for trial was new. On some of the implements the paint of the shop was scarcely dry before they were wheeled into line for competition, while very few were more than one or two years old even in the brains of their inventors. Mark the revolution which has followed their introduction: What required two able-bodied men, at the cost of much muscular exertion, to perform three years since may now be done and has been done the past summer, attended with no physical exertion save that of riding or driving a team by a boy of fifteen or an old man of sixty—thus vastly lessening the drudgery of farm life and correspondingly reducing the cost of production. This is but one of the many triumphs of similar character witnessed on our smooth prairie fields within a very brief period.

"One of the most significant facts as illustrating the importance attached by our inventors to the improvements designed to save manual labor in the field is stated in the preliminary report of the United States patent office for 1863. Of inventions during that year, in fire-arms, there were two hundred and forty; in improvement of implements of agriculture four hundred and ninety, or more than double—and this, too, in time of war!

"All honor, then, to our noble inventors and mechanics who are thus benefiting their fellowmen and weaving bright chaplets on the brow of American genius."

He afterward spoke of what had been accomplished in the production and invention of farm machinery—the labor-saving devices which met the public need when a great percentage of the farmers had gone to the front at the time of the Civil war. Continuing on this line of thought he said:

"But the most cheering and important view of this saving of labor has not been adverted to. How many hours of toil will it save to the industrial classes to be applied to the culture of the mental and social faculties? and from how much exhaustive labor, unfitting them for the exercise of their better natures, will it relieve them? The whole subject of education is invested with tenfold more interest, and those whose sympathies are enlisted in it may now work with far more certainty of realizing an early fruition of their hopes.

“Contemplated from this standpoint, the recent munificent grant of public lands by congress to the several states for the ‘endowment, support and maintenance of at least one college where the leading object shall be \* \* \* to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanical arts’; assumes a new beauty and more impressive meaning. Educate all and then all who work with their hands will know also how to work with their brains. This is the true American view of the question—the accepted creed, being rapidly reduced to practice.”

Mr. Van Epps gave his political allegiance to the democratic party and was a recognized leader in its ranks during the middle of the nineteenth century, as is indicated by the fact that he was unanimously nominated for lieutenant governor on the democratic ticket in 1868. He was a member of the Illinois branch of the Centennial board of finance and at all times he was allied with the movements looking to the betterment of the state along material, political, social, intellectual and moral lines. When he passed away the Illinois State Board of Agriculture drew up a series of resolutions in which he was spoken of as one of the wisest counsellors and valued associates of the board, and as a most active, enterprising and esteemed citizen of the state. Although many years have come and gone since he was called from this life, his memory is yet revered and honored by those who knew him, and no student of history can carry his investigations far into the records of Illinois without learning of the important part which Mr. Van Epps played in directing public affairs and moulding public policy.



## Jeremiah R. Dady



FOR many years Waukegan honored Jeremiah R. Dady as one of its leading citizens and substantial business men, a position to which he attained through his earnest, persistent efforts. He started out empty-handed and gradually worked his way upward, having the satisfaction of knowing that what he possessed he had justly earned. There were many traits in his life worthy of praise, for he was ever mindful of his duties and obligations to others and he held to high principles. He was born in Libertyville township, Lake county, January 22, 1844, and therefore lacked but a few days of being sixty-five years of age when he passed away on the 14th of January, 1909. His parents were Owen and Margaret (Conners) Dady, both of whom were natives of County Kerry, Ireland, whence they came to the United States in early life, settling in Massachusetts, where they were afterward married in 1838. It was about 1841 or 1842 that they took up their abode in Libertyville township, Lake county, Illinois, where their remaining days were passed. Both were consistent members of the Catholic church. They had five children, of whom Jeremiah R. was the third in order of birth.

Left an orphan when but ten years of age, he was early thrown upon his own resources and worked his way upward by reason of his industry, determination and honesty. He spent five years with Michael Connely, of Benton township, and was afterward employed at farm labor until eighteen years of age, when he began to learn the woodworker's trade in the carriage factory owned by his eldest brother, Robert. In 1865 he and his brother James purchased the factory, but two years later James sold his interest to Robert, who was then in partnership with Jeremiah Dady until 1870, at which time the younger brother became sole proprietor. He conducted one of the largest establishments of the kind in the city, his business growing year by year and bringing him a substantial financial return. He always held to high standards in the nature of workmanship and in the character of the service, so that his business grew along expanding lines and his success made him one of the substantial residents of his city.

Mr. Dady was four times married. In 1866 he wedded Mary Shea, who passed away five months later. In 1868 he married Sarah Craw-

ford, who lived for but five weeks. Two years later he married Margaret Mullery, who survived for eleven years. On the 24th of October, 1883, Mr. Dady was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Doyle, who was born in Rome, New York, May 15, 1859, a daughter of Arthur and Mary (Kerwin) Doyle, both of whom were natives of County Wexford, Ireland, the former coming to America when eighteen years of age and the latter when seventeen. They were married in Rome, New York, where Mr. Doyle was employed by a physician for a number of years. He next entered the employ of the Watertown, Rome & Ogdensburg Railroad Company, with which he continued for fifteen years. In 1865 he came to Illinois and purchased a farm of three hundred acres near Sycamore, which is still in possession of the family. It was preempted by the mother's brother-in-law and there has been but one transfer of title, that being when it was purchased by Mr. Doyle, who continued to reside thereon until his death in 1885. His wife long survived him, passing away in June, 1907. In the meantime she had removed to Chicago, where she continued to reside until her death. Mrs. Dady was the eldest of six children. The others are Margaret, Alice, Anna, James and William, all residing at No. 2111 North Clark street, Chicago. The sons are Board of Trade men with offices in the Postal Telegraph building. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dady were born eight children: Arthur O., who is employed by one of the largest electrical companies in Minneapolis, Minnesota, after having been educated in the electrical department of the Illinois University; Margaret M., a graduate of the Waukegan high school and of the Lake Forest University and now a teacher in the township high school; Mary, who is a graduate of the high school and of the Gray school of Chicago, and is now with the Pfanstiehl Electric Company of North Chicago; Lauretta and Bessie, who are high-school graduates of Waukegan, the latter now a student in the Lake Forest University; Robert and Genevieve, who are also attending high school; and Vincent Jo, who died at the age of nine years and seven months.

Mr. Dady was prominent in local political circles. In April, 1900, he was elected to the board of aldermen from the second ward and served for two years. He was also elected a supervisor of Waukegan and discharged the duties of both positions with promptness and ability. He likewise held an important place on the school board and he was prominent in fraternal circles. He became one of the organizers of the Royal Arcanum of Waukegan, and he belonged also to the Modern Woodmen camp, the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. Those different organizations officiated at his funeral services, following his death on the 14th of January, 1909.

The press spoke of him as one of Waukegan's most influential and highly honored citizens. In the funeral services the priest at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, to which Mr. Dady belonged and to the support of which he contributed most generously, said of him:

" 'He was a good man'—what more can we say. He was a law-abiding citizen. He strove always to do what was right. He was one of the mainstays of the Catholic Educational Board; and what I might say would only be to repeat what you have heard so many times during the last few days—he led a good life. It is our duty first to pray that his soul has entered the Kingdom of Heaven, and second, to make ready to follow in his footsteps for we do not know when our summons shall come. I will not promise you, but I have a right to believe in my own heart, that Mr. Dady's soul reposes in Heaven."

He leaves behind him the memory of a well spent life, a life fruitful of good results in business, a life fraught with many good deeds and characterized by high and noble purposes.









*S. H. McClure*

## Hon. Samuel Hamilton McClure



ON. SAMUEL HAMILTON McCLURE, who at one time was a member of the state legislature but always preferred to concentrate his energies upon agricultural pursuits, which he made his life work, was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, near Danville, November 2, 1827. He was but six weeks old when his parents, James and Mary Givens (Campbell) McClure, removed to a farm near Washington, Illinois. His mother was a native of Tennessee, born February 2, 1795. The father was born in Fayette county, near Lexington, Kentucky, May 4, 1791, and was a son of Samuel and Jane (Hamilton) McClure. The birth of Samuel McClure occurred in Augusta county, Virginia, May 16, 1748. Following the outbreak of hostilities with England, he joined the American army and served throughout the Revolutionary war. After the close of the war he lived one year in Tennessee, then moved to Fayette county, Kentucky, and settled near where Lexington now stands, bearing his full share of the dangers, duties and privations of pioneer life. At one time during trouble with the Indians, his wife was taken captive and their two children, one a baby, killed before her eyes. The white settlers pursued the Indians and she escaped, how,—she could never tell. Some time after this Indian trouble their son James was born and spent his boyhood days at the old home in Kentucky, whence he removed to Indiana and on the 15th of January, 1815, at Vincennes, that state, was married. While in that locality he followed farming, continuing to make his home there until 1816, when he removed with his young wife across the border to Illinois, settling on a farm which he cultivated for a number of years. He afterward took up his abode in the city of Washington, Illinois, where he lived retired for a time. Later he established his home in Peoria, where he engaged in merchandising for a few years. He next moved to Versailles, where he carried on farming, but again disposed of his holdings and went to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he carried on merchandising. There he remained from 1855 until 1861, when he returned to Washington, Illinois, where he lived practically retired, spending much time in visiting among his children in Illinois and in Iowa. He died in Washington, June 25, 1865, his wife surviving him until April 23,

1879. He was prominently connected with the history of the middle west through the period of its pioneer development and progress. He participated in the campaign against the Indians near Vincennes, Indiana, in the War of 1812, and afterward enlisted in Tazewell county, Illinois, for service in the Black Hawk war in 1832. In the former contest he participated in the battle of Tippecanoe, and in the siege of Fort Harrison. He not only aided in establishing the supremacy of the white race but also took most active and helpful part in retaining the wild land for the purpose of civilization, and as the years went on his labors in cultivating the fields greatly enhanced the richness and value of the property.

Samuel H. McClure, who was the sixth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, spent his youth largely upon his father's farm in the vicinity of Washington, Tazewell county, Illinois. He was educated in the public schools of Washington, and graduated from a commercial school in Peoria, Illinois. At the age of eighteen years he started out in life on his own account and found employment as a clerk in a general mercantile store in Washington, this state, for two years, after which he went to Peoria where he occupied the position of bookkeeper in a large business house for a number of years. His health became impaired, however, and the family moved to Versailles, Mr. McClure again taking up the occupation of farming. He resided at that place until about 1855, when he went to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he carried on general merchandising with his father until 1861. In that year he returned to Illinois, settling in Cruger township, Woodford county, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits. Although he did not remain upon the same farm, he continued in active connection with agricultural interests in that township to the time of his death, which occurred on September 15, 1897. In the meantime he had added to his holdings until he became an extensive landowner, the farm where he settled in 1861 and the homestead which he occupied in 1873, and upon which he resided until 1894, being still in possession of the family. In the latter year Mr. McClure removed to Eureka, where he resided until his death.

On the 11th of June, 1856, Mr. McClure married Miss Missouri Meek, who was born in Woodford county, three miles south of Eureka, Illinois, on the 7th of April, 1836, a daughter of Henry and Parthenia (Perry) Meek. She was educated in Walnut Grove Academy, now Eureka College. Her father was born in Pulaski county, Kentucky, August 11, 1804, and the mother's birth occurred in Blount county, near Knoxville, Tennessee, November 14, 1810. Mr. Meek made farming his life work and on coming to Illinois, in 1830, settled on

a farm which was his home until his death, on the 20th of September, 1883, his wife passing away on the 29th of December, 1889. In the early period, when no settlers were free from the danger of Indian attack, he, and the few other white settlers, took their families to the older settlement of Mackinaw, Tazewell county, for greater safety, but after a day or two his wife returned to aid him in protecting their home and property. He was always interested in the progress and welfare of his community and served as supervisor of his township and in other local positions of honor and trust, although he never aspired to public office. He enjoyed the respect and esteem of those who knew him in an unusual degree. His success was the merited reward of his earnest, well directed labors. He became an extensive landowner, having sixteen hundred acres of choice land in Woodford county, yet when he arrived here, his capital consisted of only about three hundred dollars. He entered his first forty acres from the government and with that start continued on his business career until his holdings were very extensive and he was numbered among the men of wealth and affluence in his part of the state. He was a man of unusual determination and much ability, and by indefatigable effort and honorable dealing he accumulated a comfortable competence. Unto him and his wife were born six children, of whom Mrs. McClure is the fourth in order of birth.

Unto the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. McClure there were born two children: Henry Edwin, born in Oskaloosa, Iowa, September 30, 1857, who died at the age of six years; and Anna Josephine, born in Woodford county, Illinois, who graduated from Eureka College and is the wife of Dr. Charles Franklin Banta, a native of Woodford county and a well known citizen of his part of the state. He is a successful practicing physician and resident of Eureka. Dr. and Mrs. Banta have one child, Frances Irene, who was born in Eureka, was educated in the public schools and in Eureka College, and also attended Belmont College, at Nashville, Tennessee, while from Washington College, at Washington, D. C., she received the Bachelor of Arts degree upon graduation with the class of 1911. She and her mother spent the summer of 1912 as students in Teachers College, Columbia University, New York city.

In his political views Mr. McClure was a democrat, recognized as one of the local leaders of the party. For many years he filled the office of trustee, and was also justice of the peace and supervisor from Cruger township for a number of years, acting as chairman of the board in 1888 and 1889. In 1892 he was elected to represent the twentieth district in the thirty-eighth general assembly and served

with fidelity and honor. He voted according to the dictates of his judgment and conscience in the face of temptation and made a most creditable and spotless record as a public official. After the expiration of his term of office he retired to his farm and could not be induced to again accept the position. However, he afterward held a number of township offices and was school trustee at the time of his death. He belonged to William C. Hobbs Lodge, No. 306, A. F. & A. M., at Eureka, and from early manhood was a member of the Christian church. His life was ever upright and he was never known to take advantage of the necessities of another in any business transaction. He believed in giving to every man a fair show and a square deal. His word could be implicitly relied upon and his life measured up to lofty standards in all its various connections.



## Seigel Delano Talcott



THOUGH the life span of Seigel Delano Talcott was of comparatively short duration, covering but forty-one years, he had within that period made his work of usefulness to the world and established for himself a position as a capable, kindly, honorable gentleman and citizen. He was a lifelong resident of Illinois and throughout the entire period of his connection with the bar was a resident of Waukegan. He was born at Half Day, Lake county, Illinois, June 15, 1862, and passed away October 29, 1903. His parents were Jeduthan and Mary E. (Savery) Talcott, both of whom were natives of Rome, New York, the father born December 31, 1825. He made farming his life work and removed westward to Lake county, Illinois, settling at Half Day when that district was still largely inhabited by Indians. He took up land from the government and continued to reside there throughout his remaining days, his death occurring August 30, 1890, while his wife survived until July 19, 1899.

The son, S. D. Talcott, after attending the public schools of Half Day continued his education at Valparaiso, Indiana, and later went to Wooster, Ohio, where he took up the study of music. He was about fourteen years of age when he determined to enjoy better educational privileges than had already been accorded him. He was a natural musician and he earned much of the sum necessary for his education by giving music lessons in the neighborhood around his home. He not only studied in Valparaiso but also under Professor Phelps, of Chicago, and afterward spent a year in further study in Wooster, Ohio. The following year he returned to Wooster and was married. He then brought his bride to Waukegan and for a number of years was instructor of music in the public schools of this city; also gave private lessons and was choirmaster. He possessed a splendid bass voice of remarkable range and was considered a most valuable acquisition to the musical circles of the city.

While continuing in the teaching of music Mr. Talcott took up the study of law, and before giving up his position as superintendent of music in the city schools was admitted to the bar. He then began practicing his profession in Waukegan as a partner of Leslie P. Hanna, a relation that existed to the time of Mr. Talcott's death. He

was serving as state's attorney at the time of his demise. As the years passed on and he prospered he made judicious investments in real estate and became an extensive owner of Waukegan city property, including both residences and business blocks.

It was on the 28th of June, 1887, that Mr. Talcott was united in marriage to Miss Annetta L. Underwood, who was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, January 18, 1863, a daughter of John Wesley and Mary (Hallobaugh) Underwood, both of whom were natives of Wellsville, Pennsylvania. Her father was a merchant, who removed from Wellsville to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and afterward became a resident of Wooster, Ohio, where he was engaged in merchandising until his death in 1876. The mother died when Mrs. Talcott was but four years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Talcott were born four children: Mae Marie, who was born May 2, 1888, and died on the 14th of the same month; Mancel, who was born February 20, 1890, and is now attending the University of Illinois; Ruth Underwood, who was born September 7, 1894, and is a student in the Lake Forest University; and Lester, who was born January 27, 1902, and is attending school in Waukegan.

In Masonry Mr. Talcott attained high rank, becoming a Knight Templar in the York Rite and a thirty-second degree Mason in the Scottish Rite. He also held membership with the Modern Woodmen of America, and his religious faith was evidenced in his membership in the Episcopal church. He passed away October 29, 1903, and so widely known and well loved was he in Waukegan that the news of his demise carried with it a sense of personal bereavement into many of the homes of that city. At the time of his death Mr. Talcott was serving as state's attorney, having filled the position for three years. When the circuit court met, with Judge Donnelly on the bench, a memorial resolution was passed in honor of Mr. Talcott which read:

"In person dignified yet kindly, the faults he had (and who is free therefrom) sprung from the gentler and generous side of his nature. No word or act of his was prompted or influenced by malice, hatred or ill will. That he was personally esteemed was best evidenced by the general inquiry for his condition from all the walks of life during the many anxious days of his distressing illness that terminated in his untimely death.

"That he was respected and esteemed by the entire circle of his acquaintance was not the result of chance. The measure of personal and public confidence that came to him was but the reflex of his manly character, made manifest in all he did. As a lawyer he stood in the foremost rank of his profession. Intellectual balance coupled with sound judgment and inherent honesty made him a safe counselor and

a successful advocate. Better than to say he was a great lawyer, it can be said truthfully that he was an honorable practitioner, who never violated the spirit or letter of a professional agreement. He kept faith with all, and measured by the rule of success, his ability as a lawyer was marked.

"As a public officer he was alert, faithful and successful, a servant of the people who realized and acted on the principle that he was chosen to serve the public and not his own private ends,—an obliging neighbor, a faithful friend, an affectionate husband and father, an honest lawyer and public servant, stricken down in the flush and height of personal and professional success.

"His public life has been an open book that all may read, and written therein can be found only acts of honorable discharge of public duty, fearlessly executed and without favor. And yet above, and influencing all else in his life, S. Delano Talcott, the man, stands out in bold relief. Generous and honorable, he won and retained the friendship of men to an extent seldom witnessed. As lives are estimated, his, though brief, was worthy and successful."





## Fred Bairstow



WHEN the life of Fred Bairstow drew to its close on the 30th of August, 1912, he had concluded all preparations for his journey to "that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns." Business affairs had been so arranged that they could be taken up by others and conducted without loss of time or values; all through his life Mr. Bairstow had, in the development of an upright, honorable character, prepared for the end, and the memory which he leaves behind is one dear to the hearts of all who knew him. A gracious presence, high principles and exalted purposes characterized him and made him one of Waukegan's foremost citizens. He was born in Halifax, Yorkshire, England, November 23, 1852, a son of James and Martha (Brearly) Bairstow, who were also natives of that place. The father was a stonecutter by trade and died in England when his son Fred was a young lad. The mother came to America in July, 1883, and was a resident of Waukegan until her death, in February, 1902.

Fred Bairstow largely acquired his education in the public schools of his native land, but always remained a student of life's problems and in the school of experience learned many valuable lessons. He was eighteen years of age when he left his old home and accompanied by his brother came to America in 1871, landing at New York. They did not tarry in the eastern metropolis but at once continued their journey overland until they reached Cook county, Illinois, where they settled, making a location at Rose Hill. There Mr. Bairstow began learning the stonecutter's trade and when he had mastered the business followed the trade in Calvary and South Evanston for six years. On the 1st of April, 1879, Mr. Bairstow established business in Waukegan as a dealer in marble and granite monuments and in 1886 extended the scope of his business to include lime, cement, coal and wood. His undertaking became one of the extensive and prosperous business concerns of the city, the trade reaching mammoth proportions and placing Mr. Bairstow among the most successful men of Waukegan. As the years passed on, he began making investments in real estate and was one of the city's largest property owners. He owned extensive grounds, which include the offices and yards of the Bairstow Marble &

Coal Company, on Genesee street, extending through to Country street. He also owned the coal yards at the foot of Madison street hill and other valuable pieces of city real estate, including the vacant property at the southeast corner of Clayton street hill. He was likewise the owner of the old Israel property on McAllister avenue, where the famous springs are located, and a large and valuable tract at the southeast corner of Marion street and South avenue. His judgment in business matters was sound, his enterprise keen, and his persistent energy accomplished most gratifying results. In addition to his other interests Mr. Bairstow was one of the main stockholders, with M. H. Hussey, in the Hussey Lumber Company, operating yards at North Chicago and Waukegan. He also purchased in Cuba, this state, a few years ago some valuable acreage, but ill health prevented him from developing the tract.

On the 21st of March, 1875, Mr. Bairstow was united in marriage to Miss Emma E. Hastrawser, who was born in Belvidere, Boone county, Illinois, a daughter of Paul and Elizabeth (Hazelwood) Hastrawser, the latter a native of Hull, England. The father was a contractor and builder, who settled in Belvidere at an early day and was married there, his mother having come with her children to America about seventy-five years ago, the first location being made in Canada, whence a removal brought them to Belvidere. Mr. and Mrs. Bairstow became the parents of six children: George H., Jessie F., Charles E., Martha E., F. Raymond and Paul J. The sons, George, Charles and Raymond, are now conducting the extensive business established by their father and are proving worthy successors of him who ranked among the leading and representative business men of the city.

Mr. Bairstow held membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Woodmen, the Royal Arcanum and the Royal League and filled various offices in the different lodges. In politics he was independent and never aspired to office. His religious faith was that of the Episcopal church. He was long a member of the vestry of Christ church and for many years served as junior warden. He never failed to attend church services when his health permitted, and there was no one more active in or loyal to the work of the church and its purposes. He did all he could to encourage the boy choir and was one of the men who showed active interest in the annual camping trip given the boys, and in their general welfare. He was equally zealous in his support of the Sunday school and was a firm believer in the proverb: "Train a child up in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

In July, 1910, Mr. Bairstow went west for the benefit of his health, and after spending some time at Roswell, New Mexico, removed to Grand Junction, Colorado, where, with his wife and sons Paul and Raymond, he remained continuously until March, 1912, when he expressed a desire to return home, even though he knew his health could not improve in this climate. It was his strong desire to reach Waukegan in time to attend the Easter services at his church, and though advised against this course by his physician he persisted and on Easter Sunday not only occupied his accustomed pew in Christ church, but also acted as usher on that occasion in spite of his lack of health and strength. It was, however, one of the last Sunday services he attended, although he was later present at two vestry meetings. When he became conscious of a tubercular condition he so arranged his affairs that every detail was attended to, few men leaving their business in such excellent condition. This was characteristic of the man. He always seemed to accomplish what he undertook, making wise use of his time and opportunities. His standards of life were high and he availed himself of every advantage that would enable him to reach their level. His friends never found it difficult to find in his life history some act, deed or purpose worthy of praise. His life was the embodiment of high ideals and ennobling purposes, and when he passed away in September, 1912, a feeling of deep and sincere sorrow spread over the community. It has been said that a good man never dies in the sense of that finality which comes when his life work ceases, for his influence and his example remain as potent factors for righteousness and truth. Such is the record of Fred Bairstow.







CLARK W. UPTON

## Clark W. Upton



AWYER, legislator and judge, the record which Clark W. Upton left behind is one which serves to inspire and encourage others. He aided in framing, as well as interpreting and executing the laws, and he had the highest respect for the dignity of his profession, which has always been regarded as a conservator of the rights and privileges and the liberty of mankind. He never deviated from the high standards, professional and otherwise, which he set up, and the worth of his character was attested by all who had to do with his upright and honorable life. He was born in Montpelier, Vermont, January 28, 1823, pursued his education in the schools of the Green Mountain state, and after a thorough course of law study was admitted to the bar of Vermont in 1843. He took up the profession of teaching in early manhood and both taught school and practiced law in Barre, Vermont, ere his removal to the middle west. Arriving in Waukegan, Lake county, Illinois, he there formed a partnership with Henry W. Blodgett in the year 1850, and for a quarter of a century remained an active practitioner of the bar of northern Illinois. His preparation of cases was always thorough and exhaustive and the court records bear testimony to his ability in handling involved and important legal problems. He practiced in partnership with Judge Blodgett until about 1870, when he went to Chicago, where he continued in active practice until elected to the bench in 1877, but always retained his residence in Waukegan. Ever interested in grave political problems and anxious to secure through political activity all that is best for state and nation, he interested himself in politics to the extent of championing the principles in which he believed, yet never allowed his political activity to interfere with the faithful performance of his professional duties. His fellow townsmen, appreciating his high standards of citizenship, his ability and his well known devotion to the public good, elected him to the state senate in 1874, and for four years he continued an active member of the upper house, serving on various important committees and taking part in furthering constructive legislation. In 1877 he was elected circuit judge and was thereafter continuously upon the circuit and appellate court benches of the state until 1897, when he retired from the bench and

active professional life. His decisions were models of judicial soundness. He seemed to lose sight of no detail of a case and yet gave due prominence to the important point upon which the decision always rests. In his service on the bench he displayed a thorough mastery of every problem presented for solution and many of his judgments are quoted as models of judicial soundness. In politics he was always a republican.

Judge Upton was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Sherman, a native of Barre, Vermont, and they became the parents of five children, two sons and three daughters, all of whom are yet residents of Waukegan. Judge Upton passed away November 24, 1906, having for almost two decades survived his wife, who died on the 23d of January, 1888. His declining years had been passed among his old neighbors and friends of Waukegan, who entertained for him the highest respect and honor. A meeting of the bar resulted in the adoption of the following memorial:

"Saturday, November 24, A. D. 1906, marked the passing to the better life of a profound lawyer, a just judge, an honest man. The Silent Reaper found the ripened grain fit to be garnered in splendid harvest. In the fullness of years, in honorable old age, in the quiet of his home, Judge Upton peacefully and serenely passed away.

"We need not mourn. After more than fourscore years of active, useful life, he paid the final debt of human nature, leaving to his family that splendid heritage—an honored name. We honor and revere his memory, and pay loving tribute to his worth. There need be reared over his final resting place no stately column on which to chisel in cold and formal words his name, his age, his life. Graven in the memory of all who knew him is the knowledge of his generous and kindly nature, his ability and worth as a citizen, neighbor and friend.

"Future generations need but to look, to find the records of the courts adorned with judicial opinions that evidence the profound depths of his legal knowledge, and the spirit of justness and greatness that ever guided and controlled him, while the journal of the state senate and the state reflect his wisdom and ability as a legislator. A practicing lawyer for more than twenty-five years, a prominent legislator for four years, a judge presiding in the courts of the state for twenty years and ever found alert, active, able, just and honorable, with a reputation for all those qualities as wide as the sphere of his activities. His was a mind strong and profound, yet brilliant. In the ordinary discharge of his duties as attorney, legislator and judge, he might well have trusted to the inspiration of the moment, and have been safely guided thereby; and yet it was ever his habit, even in

minor matters, not only to think he was right, but from careful study and research to know he was right. He believed the only genius was that of the student and the worker.

"With all the ability and wisdom that graced Judge Upton with all the prominence and success that came to him in private and public life, it was ever found that nature had endowed him with the element of true greatness; he was as modest and unassuming as a child. Sensitive to censure and criticism, he was possessed of moral courage to a degree that always enabled him to do right regardless thereof. What a life record to inspire in the young like ideals and similar efforts!"





## General Smith D. Atkins

**I**N THE seventy-seven years compassed by his life history General Smith D. Atkins made for himself an honored name, while his life work was of distinct value to city, state and country. He was a distinguished and gallant officer of the Union army, was a recognized leader in political circles, and his name was furthermore inseparably associated with the history of journalism in Illinois. New York numbered him among her native sons, his birth having occurred near Elmira, in Chemung county, June 9, 1836. From the age of ten years, however, he lived in this state, accompanying his parents when in 1846 they took up their abode upon a farm near Freeport. There he remained until 1850, when he determined to learn the printer's trade and at the age of fourteen years entered upon an apprenticeship in the office of the *Prairie Democrat*, Freeport's first newspaper. He began to realize, too, how necessary is education as a preparation for the responsible duties of life and, ambitious to make the most of his opportunities, took up a course of study in the Rock River Seminary at Mount Morris, Illinois. While working in the printing office his leisure time was devoted to further reading and study and in 1852, while yet a student, he was appointed foreman of the *Mount Morris Gazette*, and in June, 1853, became one of the owners of the paper, his partner in the enterprise being C. C. Allen, afterward major on the staff of Major General Schofield. They were also associated in the establishment of the *Register* at Savanna, Carroll county, Illinois. It was about that time that General Atkins took up the study of law with Hiram Bright, of Freeport, as his preceptor, and after two years reading was admitted to the bar on the 27th of June, 1855. Later he also studied law in the office of Goodrich & Scoville of Chicago, and on the 1st of September, 1856, opened an office in Freeport. He entered upon the practice of his profession under favorable circumstances and rapidly won a large and distinctly representative clientele. That was at a period when all public-spirited citizens were deeply interested in the questions of the day, and General Atkins was an interested student in the vital problems which the nation was called upon to solve. In 1860 he was one of the ardent supporters of Abraham Lincoln and an address which he made during the

campaign, which was a careful and thorough review of the Dred Scott decision, was published and went through several editions. In the same year he was elected states attorney for the fourteenth judicial circuit. He was trying a criminal case in the Stephenson circuit court when a telegram was received that President Lincoln had issued a call for troops. His loyalty and his patriotism were aroused by the attack on Fort Sumter and all that it meant, and before he had left the courtroom he had draughted an enlistment roll which he headed with his own name, thus being the first man to enlist as a private soldier in Stephenson county. He then announced to the court and jury his decision to prepare without delay for service in the Union army. Leaving the half finished case in the hands of a brother attorney, he left the courtroom with his enlistment roll and within a few hours he had secured the signature of one hundred others on the roll. The company was organized the same evening and Mr. Atkins was chosen as captain. The men proceeded to Springfield and were mustered in as Company A, of the Eleventh Illinois Volunteers for three months' service. That period served to prove that the war was to be no mere holiday affair and President Lincoln was calling for troops to serve for three years. Captain Atkins reenlisted for that term as a private and was again mustered in as captain of Company A, Eleventh Illinois Volunteers, at Birds Point.

The following record of his military service has been given by a contemporary biographer: "He was at Fort Donelson, with the unexpired order of leave of absence on account of sickness in his pocket, when the command of 'forward' was given. He took sixty-eight men into this desperate engagement and came out with but twenty-three left, having been in the very thickest of the carnage. For gallant services at Fort Donelson he was promoted to the position of major of the Eleventh Regiment and went on the staff of General Hurlburt as acting assistant adjutant general by the special assignment of General Grant and in that capacity was engaged with Hurlburt in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, his bravery and conspicuous services securing special mention in the general orders after that fight. Ill health brought on by exhausting labors and exposure, compelled his resignation after the affair of Pittsburg Landing, and he spent the two subsequent months on the sea coast. He recuperated in time to take the stump to raise troops under the call of 1862 and enlisted the Ninety-second Illinois Regiment, which was mustered in, with himself as colonel, on September 4, 1862. He was in command of this regiment until January 17, 1863, when he was placed in command of a demi-brigade. While the Ninety-second was at Mount Sterling.

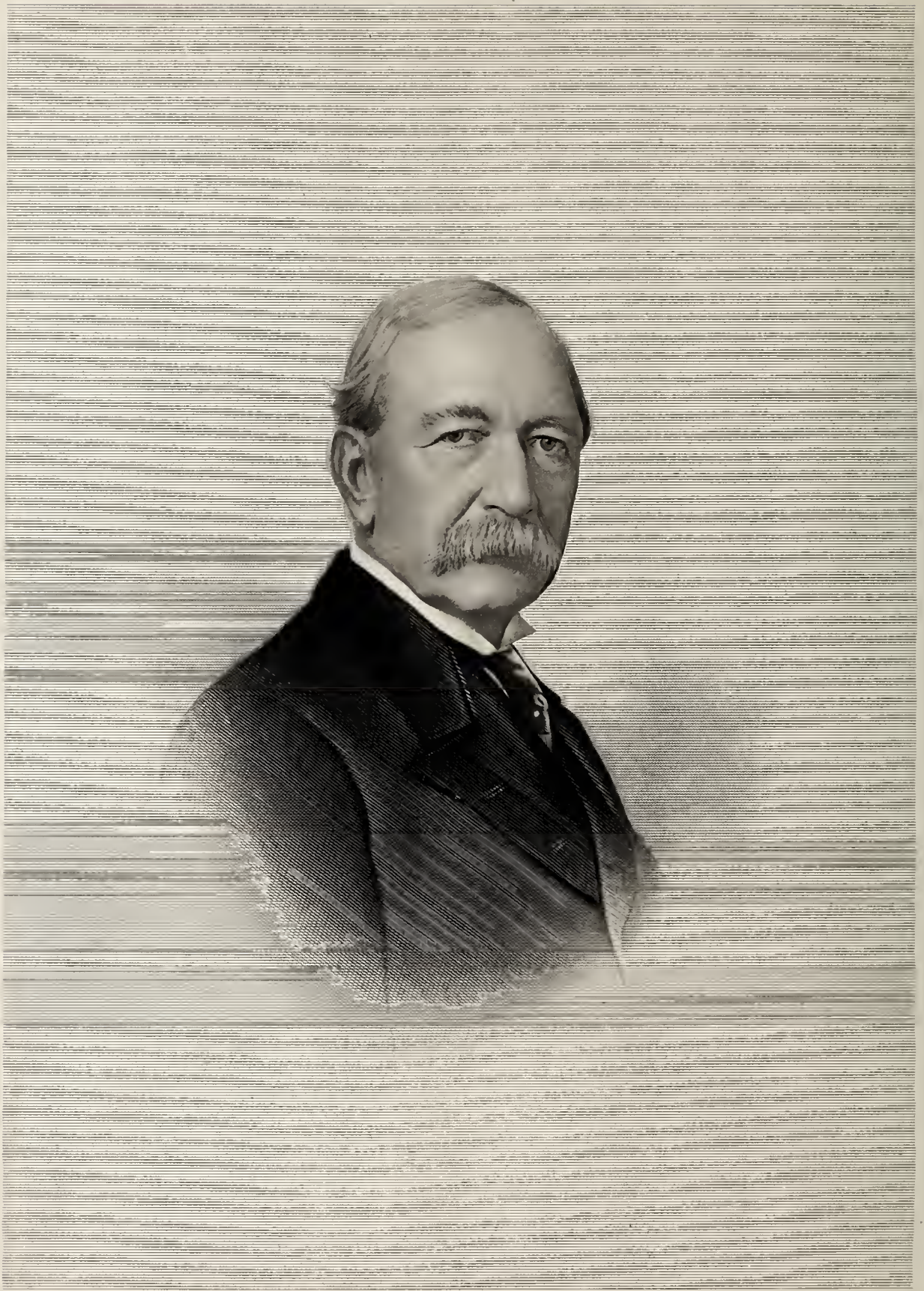
Kentucky, Colonel Atkins being in charge of it, a grave issue arose. It was the first Yankee regiment which had visited that section and hundreds of slaves flocked to its camps begging for protection and offering their services or their blood for freedom. They refused to return to their masters, and when their owners demanded them as chattels Colonel Atkins declined to entertain the peremptory request that his force should be used to drive them back. The owners appealed to the commander of the brigade—a Kentuckian—who ordered Atkins to return the slaves, but the latter persistently declined to do this and never did, his reasons being that he was not responsible for the escape of the slaves and that his men had not enlisted to act in the capacity of blood hounds to hunt them down and drive them back. On June 17, 1863, he was placed in the command of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Army of Kentucky, which he commanded while in the department of the Ohio. When the Ninety-second regiment was removed to the department of the Cumberland he was placed in command of the First Brigade, First Division of the Reserve Corps; and when the regiment was mounted and transferred to Wilder's Brigade of Mounted Infantry he accompanied and commanded it until transferred to Kilpatrick's Cavalry Division. When General Kilpatrick reorganized his division preparatory to the great march with Sherman he assigned the command of the Second Brigade to Colonel Atkins. When Sherman advanced southward he aimed to throw his army between the rebel forces and Savannah. The task of deceiving the enemy and holding them while this movement was being effected was given by Kilpatrick to Colonel Atkins and his brigade and he skilfully accomplished it. At Clinton he charged the enemy and drove them fourteen miles to Macon. He assaulted their lines about the city and forced them into their works and held them there until Sherman swept to the eastward, leaving him with the enemy in his rear, and nothing before him to impede his rapid progress. In all the engagements in which he participated with his brigade Colonel Atkins greatly distinguished himself and especially so at Waynesboro, Georgia, where Wheeler and his cavalry were overwhelmingly defeated. While leading the charge of his troops against the rebel columns, his color bearer was shot down by his side and his brigade flag attracted the attention of the enemy, who poured in upon it their concentrated fire. In this terrific storm of leaden hail he wore a charmed life, leading prominently in the van and cheering on his troops to victory. At Savannah, Georgia, he was brevetted brigadier general for gallantry and was assigned to duty under his commission as brevet brigadier general by special order of President Lincoln and

commanded a brigade of cavalry during Sherman's campaign in the Carolinas and at the close of the war, when he was mustered out, he was brevetted major general for faithful and important services. In all his stations as a commanding officer he was popular with both the rank and file. He was a perfect disciplinarian and was kind and considerate to the men under him. His courage and his judgment as a strategist won their confidence and they readily and heartily supported him wherever he went."

With the close of the war General Atkins returned to his old home in Freeport and there continued to reside until death called him. His record as a member of the bar, as a journalist and as a public official was ever one above criticism. For years he was editor of the Freeport Journal, which he made one of the leading papers of the state outside of the great city dailies. His editorials were terse, concise and to the point. He said what he had to say without fear or favor and yet did not exhibit a strong partisan spirit. The honesty of his convictions no one questioned and he never deviated from a course which he believed to be right in connection with public affairs. He served for many years as postmaster of Freeport and also was for a number of years president of the board of directors of the public library. His opinions carried weight in the councils of the republican party and its leaders listened to him with attention. He was at one time a candidate for the nomination for state treasurer and he served as a delegate to republican national conventions.

In 1865 General Atkins was united in marriage to a daughter of ex-Governor Swain of North Carolina. She died a number of years prior to the death of her husband, leaving two daughters. General Atkins had reached the age of seventy-seven years when death called him. His life had been one of usefulness, bringing him the respect and confidence of his fellowmen. At one time he had served as commander in chief of the army of the Order of Knights of the Globe. Any feasible project to promote the material, intellectual and moral welfare of the city received his indorsement and active cooperation. He was ever found in those circles wherein intelligent men are met in the discussion of important themes. His friends, and they were many, found him an entertaining, courteous and cultured companion. He was respected wherever known, but most of all, where he was best known, and in Stephenson county, where almost his entire life was spent, he had a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance.





Lambert Rice

## Lambert Tree



THE progress of today makes the history of tomorrow, and because of the important and helpful part he took in shaping the events of vital importance to Chicago, Lambert Tree left an indelible impress upon the history of the city. Distinguished as a lawyer and jurist, he was equally widely known and honored by reason of the many progressive public movements which he instituted and aided and which constituted tangible evidence of his devotion to the city's welfare. At the time of his death, which occurred October 9, 1910, the Record Herald said editorially: "Chicago has lost one of her ablest and best citizens. His active participation in public affairs came to an end years ago, but his interest in important civic questions and movements continued undiminished up to the moment of his passing. Old friends and younger men have had the benefit of his advice, his ripe knowledge, his wide experience and his uncompromising loyalty to principle and conviction."

Mr. Tree was a native of Washington, his birth having occurred in the capital city November 29, 1832. He belonged to a family founded in America in 1635, when representatives of the name settled in Maryland. His parents were Lambert and Laura M. (Burrows) Tree and in both lines he was descended from Revolutionary stock. His paternal grandfather was a captain of artillery in the Revolutionary war and was killed at the battle of Trenton. His maternal grandfather, General Burrows, served throughout the war for independence and was a functionary of the government when it removed from Philadelphia to Washington. His father was also at one time a soldier and for a considerable period was in the government employ at Washington, where the family enjoyed the entree of the best society of the capital, so that in his youth Lambert Tree met several presidents and many of the statesmen whose names have become an inseparable part of the country's history.

Lambert Tree acquired his early education under private tutors and in preparation for the bar attended the University of Virginia, from which he was graduated with the Bachelor of Law degree in 1855. He then returned to Washington, where he entered the law

office of James Mandeville Carlisle, then a celebrated lawyer. It was while in this office that Mr. Tree first met Rufus Choate, who spoke to Mr. Carlisle of his wish to secure some one who could take down in longhand (for there were no stenographers in those days) an argument he was to deliver in the supreme court. Mr. Tree had had some practice in this work in taking down debates from the senate galleries and volunteered to aid Choate, who accepted the offer. On the 15th of October, 1855, Mr. Tree was admitted to the bar in Washington. Immediately he gave up his position in Mr. Carlisle's office and at the advice of Senator Stephen A. Douglas concerning a favorable location in the west, came to Chicago and entered at once upon the active work of a profession in which advancement must depend upon individual merit, fortunate environment or family connection contributing little to success at the bar. However, no dreary novitiate awaited him. He soon proved his ability and came to be recognized as one of the foremost representatives of the legal profession in the middle of the nineteenth century—a position which the consensus of opinion accorded him throughout the remainder of his life. Mr. Tree brought with him to Chicago a letter of introduction to John M. Douglas, who had just been appointed attorney for the Illinois Central Railroad and who offered Mr. Tree a position in his office at a salary of twelve hundred dollars a year. This was considered a large salary for that day but he declined the offer, wishing to engage in general practice. During the first week of his residence in Chicago he won his first case as defending counsel for the Illinois Central Railroad against Murray F. Tuley. His fee was ten dollars. Not long afterward he became a partner in the firm of Clarkson & Tree, with offices at the southeast corner of Clark and Lake streets. It was there that he first met Abraham Lincoln, who had come from Springfield to Chicago on a matter of business and desired to consult a law book, for which purpose he visited the office of Clarkson & Tree, who possessed one of the best law libraries of the city. Then began a friendship between the two men that was terminated only in the death of the martyred president.

In 1864 Mr. Tree was called to his first office, being made president of the Law Institute and from 1870 until 1875 sat upon the circuit bench. His legal and judicial history are indeed a credit to a bar which has numbered some of the most distinguished men of the nation. One of his first official acts was to deliver a vigorous charge to the grand jury to investigate rumors of corruption and bribery in the city council. The result was numerous indictments and the conviction and punishment of a score or more of aldermen for accepting

bribes. The trial attracted widespread attention at the time and was the first conviction for the offense in Illinois. Judge Tree conducted himself with such signal dignity, honor and justice through this delicate situation that in 1873 he was made the candidate of his party for the full term and was elected without opposition. The strenuous duties of the office, however, impaired his health and at the close of his term he went abroad, where he took up the study of French, Italian, German and Spanish, and upon his return to his native land could fluently speak all those tongues.

Too catholic in his interests to limit his efforts to a single line, Mr. Tree became recognized as a leader in public thought and opinion and his activities were resultant factors in the attainment of ends which have constituted a chief source of Chicago's greatness and power. He was three times a candidate for congress, although he knew that there was no hope of election. Each time, however, the majorities against him were smaller, indicating his growing popularity, and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. In 1885 he was the democratic candidate for United States senator and his personal popularity and the recognition of his ability carried him within one vote of election, John A. Logan being the successful candidate. During the previous year he had been delegate at large from Illinois to the democratic national convention. He received appointment from President Cleveland to the position of United States minister to Belgium. He remained abroad for three years and during his residence in Brussels represented the United States government in the international congress for the reform of commercial and maritime law, an assemblage of representatives of all civilized nations of the world. In September, 1885, he was appointed United States minister to Russia and continued there through the remainder of President Cleveland's administration. He was appointed by President Harrison the democratic member of the monetary commission which convened in Washington in January, 1891, and settled monetary questions between all South American republics, Mexico and the United States. His keen insight into the vital questions there discussed constituted an element in the important work that was done.

Mr. Tree became one of the incorporators of the American Red Cross. He took a warm interest in the work of the international conference held at Brussels in 1889 for the purpose of framing a treaty for the suppression of the African slave trade, and he had much influence in rescuing from defeat a treaty which the conference framed. Numerous contributions from his pen explained the provisions of the treaty and it was ratified finally by the United States senate. In

Chicago the labors of Mr. Tree were equally varied and efficacious. He was from 1893 until 1897 president of the Illinois State Historical Library and was at one time vice president of the Chicago Historical Society, being keenly interested in perpetuating in enduring form the record of those events which have shaped the city's history. He was also a life trustee of the Newberry Library. In more material lines he was a director of the Merchants Loan & Trust Company, of the Chicago Safe Deposit Company and the Chicago Edison Company. In 1889 he presented to the city a beautiful bronze statue of La Salle and in 1894 a bronze statue of a Sioux warrior, entitled "A Signal of Peace." Both of these adorn Lincoln Park. Just prior to the World's Columbian Exposition his democratic friends urged him to become a candidate for the mayoralty, but this he declined to do. "Lambert Tree was a democrat of the old school," said Roger C. Sullivan at the time of his death, "and one of the finest gentlemen of his time. Chicago loses one of its greatest citizens and the whole democratic party and the entire nation loses one whose services for good cannot be overestimated." After his retirement from diplomatic service he gave his attention to the supervision of his personal and invested interests. He had in the early years of his residence in Chicago become largely interested in real estate and he left a valuable fortune, much of which was in property.

Mr. Tree was married in 1859 to Miss Anna J. Magie, a daughter of H. H. Magie, a Chicago pioneer, and to them was born a son, Arthur Magie Tree, who married Ethel, a daughter of Marshall Field, by whom he had three children, of whom but one, Ronald Lambert Tree, born September 26, 1897, is now living.

Mr. Tree was a member of the Chicago and Iroquois Clubs of this city, of the Union Club of New York and the Metropolitan Club of Washington. Almost seven years to the day before his demise, Mr. Tree lost his wife, who died suddenly on shipboard while returning from Europe. His own death occurred in New York following his return from abroad after making his one hundred and twenty-second voyage across the Atlantic. He was unpretentious in manner but the work that he accomplished nevertheless entitled him to praise and regard. Successful accomplishment ever crowned his efforts, whether in the field of law, wherein his ability was attested by the extent and importance of his clientage; in statesmanship, where in ministerial appointments he proved an able representative of the government; or in municipal affairs, where he looked toward the upbuilding of a greater city.

The Chicago Tribune said editorially: "Lambert Tree had been prominently identified with the material and social life of Chicago for more than half a century. His death seems like the destruction of a landmark, like the cutting of a link which united the Chicago of the days before the war and the great fire with the Chicago of today. He had attained enviable prominence at the bar, on the bench and in the political arena. It was with regret that the community saw him leave the courts. He had the legal knowledge and the sober, dispassionate judgment which go to the making of a good judge. He was one of the wise and trusted counselors of his party in this state as long as it held to its old faiths. When it abandoned them in 1896 it lost him. When loyalty to the party organization meant disloyalty to the interests of the country there was but one course open to him. He did all he could, and it was much, for the cause of sound money. Mr. Tree was proud of Chicago. He played well his part in promoting its material and artistic development. As in public life he had the respect of all, so in private life he won the warm regard of all who came in contact with him. He made no enemies, but he left a host of friends to deplore their personal loss and that civic loss involved in the death of a good citizen."





## Captain Daniel Smith Harris



WHEN the news of the death of Daniel Smith Harris passed over Galena the city recognized the fact that its oldest pioneer had gone—one who for a longer period than any other had been identified with the upbuilding and development of Jo Daviess county. He was eighty-four years of age. Much of his life had been spent in northwestern Illinois and his labors have constituted a valuable contribution to the upbuilding and progress of the section.

Captain Harris was born at Courtwright, Delaware county, New York, July 24, 1808, and was descended from an old Massachusetts family, the ancestral line being traced back to the time of the landing of the Pilgrims from the Mayflower on Plymouth Rock. James Harris, the father and a native of Massachusetts, removed to Connecticut and subsequently to New York. After a number of years he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and there remained until the work of developing the lead mines attracted him to Galena. In the spring of 1823 he started for that city as one of the thirty-nine passengers—thirty-five men and four women—on board the steamer Colonel Bumford.

This number also included Daniel Smith Harris, then a youth in his fifteenth year. One can scarcely realize the changes which have occurred since that day, now nearly ninety years ago. At the time of their arrival Galena was a little hamlet, the population of which included about one hundred white people and as many Indians. Rude huts afforded shelter to inhabitants, for not a building of permanent character had been erected here. As the steamer proceeded down the Ohio and up the Mississippi rivers it passed other little hamlets which have now grown into thriving cities. It was a strange, new sight to Captain Harris, who, then a boy, never forgot the incidents of the trip to Illinois. Through the year following their arrival James Harris, the father, worked for Moses Meeker but the next year began to break sod and cultivate the first farm developed in Jo Daviess county. His son, Captain Harris, at first engaged in prospecting in the mining region and met with indifferent success. Later, however, he struck an old deserted shaft in West Galena, worked it and there discovered one of the richest leads ever found in this region. He pursued his operations in the same district, now known as West Dig-

gings, until he was recognized as the most successful miner in Galena, and from that time until his death he never ceased his mining operations, most of which were confined to West Diggings, although at the discovery of the California range in Rice he did some prospecting there.

Captain Harris, however, did not confine his efforts alone to one line and his labors were at all times of great benefit to the city. In the early days there was no railroad traffic and all goods had to be hauled overland or brought up the river by boat. As the city grew the steamboat interests of Galena came to be of more and more importance and in 1833-4 Captain Harris and his brother, R. Scribe Harris, built the first steamboat ever launched at Galena. It was very crude in construction as compared to the later "floating palaces" which have been seen upon the Mississippi. The flywheel was made of lead, for that material was most easily obtained in Galena. The boat was christened the *Jo Daviess* and in 1834 Captain Harris took her to St. Louis with a cargo of lead, there selling both cargo and vessel. In 1835 the brothers built the *Frontier* at Cincinnati and sailed her on various western rivers. This was followed by the building of the *Smelter*, which made regular trips between Cincinnati and Galena in 1836 and 1837, the round trip occupying twenty-one days. This boat was afterward purchased by the government and Captain Harris later built the *Relief* at Cincinnati in 1838, the old *War Eagle* in 1839, the *Pizarro* in 1848, the *Preemption* and *Otter* in 1842 and the new *St. Paul* in 1843. In the twenty-eight years of his river experience Captain Harris built or was interested in one hundred steamers. His last trip was made as commander of the *Gray Eagle*, which struck the pier of the Rock Island bridge in 1861 and went down. Four of the passengers were drowned and all might have been lost but for the heroic conduct of the master of the vessel.

Captain Harris then retired to private life, spending his last days in the enjoyment of well earned rest in a beautiful home on Prospect street in Galena. He was married May 22, 1833, to Miss Sarah M. Langworthy, a daughter of Dr. Stephen Langworthy, who later lived in Dubuque, Iowa. Mrs. Harris died on the island of Cuba in January, 1850, having gone to that tropical region for the benefit of her health. In August, 1851, Captain Harris wedded Miss Sarah Coates, who died February 23, 1886, and was deeply mourned by all who knew her. Ten of Captain Harris' children survived him: Mrs. L. M. Dodge and Mrs. C. T. Trego of Chicago; Mrs. Amelia C. O'Ferral, of Chatfield, Minnesota; Mrs. T. G. Maupine, of Portland, Oregon; and D. Smith Harris, of Madrone, Washington, all

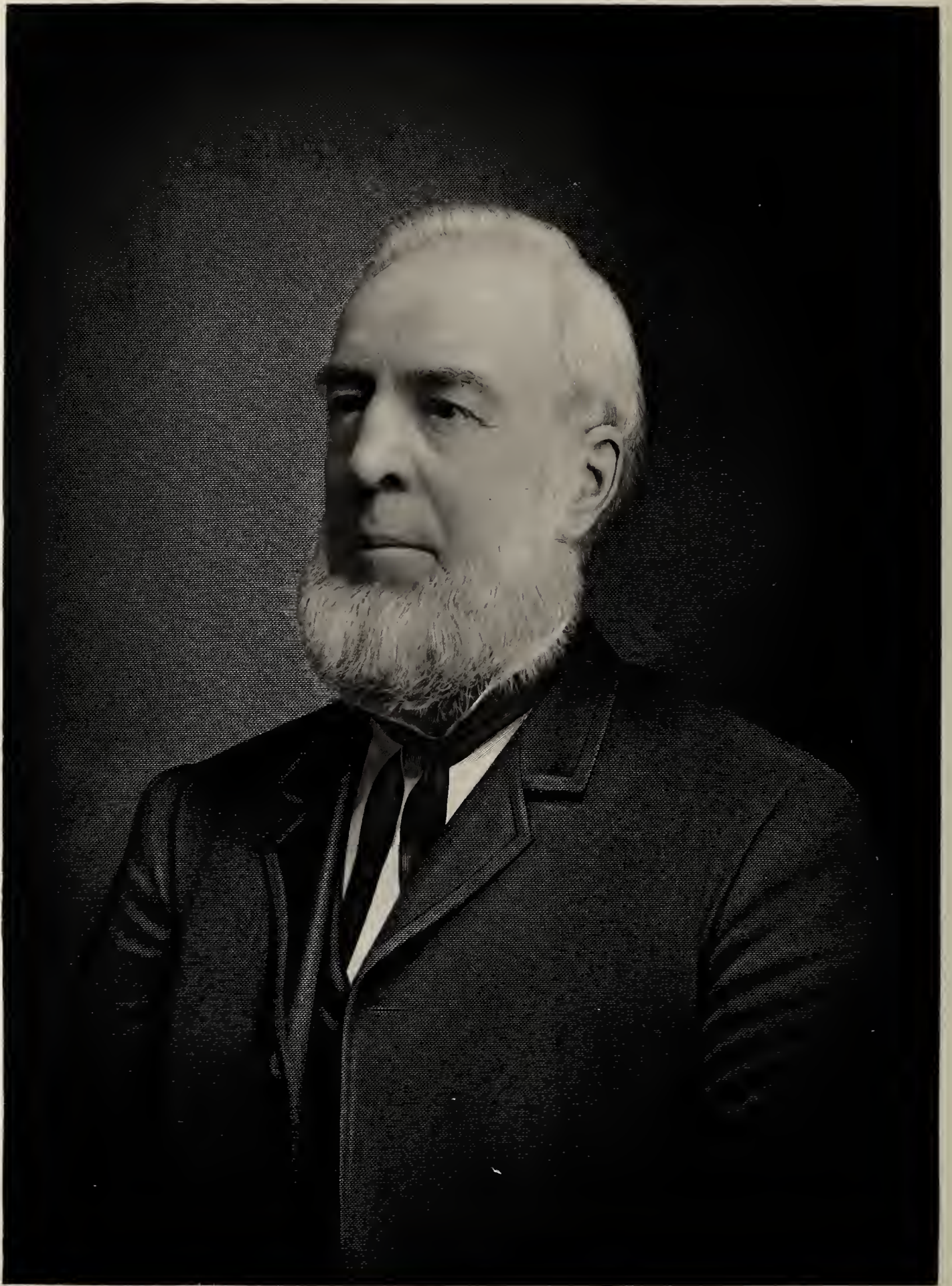
born of the first marriage. The children of the second marriage are: Mrs. J. V. Hellman, of Galena; Mrs. C. F. Taylor, of Warren; Mrs. Irene Gillette; Anna H. Freedman, of Crowell, Texas; and Paul Cherrington Harris, of San Francisco. Captain Harris passed away in March, 1893, and at his death one of the local papers wrote: "Captain Harris was always public-spirited and to the end of his life he maintained a keen interest in all affairs of public interest, whether of national or local importance. In 1850, when the Minnesota Packet Company began business between St. Paul and Galena and had a monopoly of rates, he built a rival steamer and made things interesting on the river that summer. Rates were cut so low that passengers were carried to St. Paul for fifty cents and the freight on flour was ten cents per barrel. Subsequently he identified his interests with the Minnesota line and became one of the directors. He was also one of the promoters of the Galena & Southern Wisconsin Railroad and became a heavy stockholder and a director. There are any number of people living who pose as survivors of the Black Hawk war, that interesting conflict of sixty-one years ago, but Captain Harris was one of the few still surviving who was actually engaged in that conflict. He was a lieutenant in Colonel Stephenson's regiment and had command of his company at the decisive battle of Wisconsin Heights. Two weeks ago he received notice that he had been allowed a pension under act of July, 1892, which gave tardy recognition to the services of the pioneers against whom Black Hawk waged his last desperate struggle for supremacy. The character of Captain Harris was a composite of the strongest and best traits of man. Deprived of a liberal education, his mental force and excellent use of his faculties made up the deficiency and his store of information covered a vast range of subjects. He had a remarkable memory and was first authority on all matters pertaining to the early history of Galena. In all his dealings he was strictly honorable and he leaves a reputation unblemished by a single reproachable deed. Although affiliating with no religious sect, his ideas of man's duty to his fellowman were clear, firm and rigidly adhered to. In politics he was a staunch republican. He took a natural pride in his experience as one of Galena's pioneers and has been for many years president of the Old Settlers' Association. His energies were well directed, his life well spent. He died full of honors as of years and carries to his tomb the respect and esteem of the community which reaps the advantages of the trials and self-sacrifices in which, as one of its pioneers, he shared."

Captain Harris was widely known for the honesty of his purpose in business transactions, for his liberal charity, his benefactions being

known to many who were the recipients of his kindness, and for his great tenderness and sympathy. His character and his worth impressed all with whom he came in contact and all who knew him during the seventy years of his residence in Galena felt that he was a citizen whose work was of marked value in the upbuilding of the material interests of the city and who at the same time exerted a strong influence in support of all those things which are just and right. His memory formed a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present, between pioneer conditions and hardships and later day prosperity and comfort. He indeed helped to mould the policy and shape the destiny of Galena and his name is written high on the list of its honored citizens.







*B. J. Felt.*

## Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Felt



MEMORIAL to Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Felt is found in the public library and the Young Men's Christian Association of Galena; their memory, too, is enshrined in the hearts of many who knew them, and as the years pass on, placing each individual and each event in its proper relation to the history of the state, the names of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Felt grow brighter with a recognition on the part of their fellow townsmen of their good deeds and their noble and inspiring influence.

Mr. Felt's demise occurred on the 31st of July, 1899. He was born at Plattsburg, New York, January 3, 1821, his parents being Samuel Webster and Polly (Bingham) Felt, the former of Temple, New Hampshire, and the latter of Westport, New York. The father was born September 22, 1777, and, following his removal to the Empire state, there followed farming until paralysis practically terminated his life's labors. In the same year the mother of Benjamin F. Felt died and upon the son devolved the responsibility of caring for the home farm and providing for the family. Up to that time he had attended the public schools but the exigencies of the situation cut short his educational opportunities. In the school of experience, however, he learned many valuable lessons and as the years went on also added largely to his knowledge through reading and observation. He continued to operate the old homestead in New York until he attained his majority, when, in 1842, he made his way westward to Illinois with Galena as his destination. There he entered the employ of his brother, Lucius S. Felt, who had removed to the west in 1837. During the ensuing four years, spent as a clerk, his earnings amounted to one thousand and fifty dollars, of which sum through economy and careful expenditure he saved seven hundred dollars. It was always his belief that any individual should save a portion of his earnings and this became a guiding rule of his life, bringing him at length to a position of prosperity. In 1846 his savings were such that he felt justified in engaging in business on his own account and opened a grocery store which he conducted for forty-five years with unvarying success, remaining thus active in commercial circles of Galena until 1891. For thirty-five years his store was maintained continuously at

the same location. He enjoyed an excellent trade that grew with the growth of the city and throughout his entire identification with mercantile interests in Galena he sustained an unassailable reputation for business integrity and reliability as well as enterprise. As he prospered in the conduct of his store he also extended his efforts to other fields and for a long period was a stockholder in the Merchants National Bank, one of the leading financial institutions of Galena, succeeding to a place on the board of directors on the death of his brother in 1876. At one time he was interested in the banking business in Iowa and he became the owner of large realty holdings, much of which, however, he sold ere his death.

Mr. Felt was married on the 11th of September, 1854, to Miss Ann Elizabeth Platt, a native of Plattsburg, New York. She was a daughter of Zephaniah C. Platt and her grandfather was Zephaniah C. Platt, a member of the Continental Congress and who founded Plattsburg, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Felt became the parents of four children: Zephaniah Charles, who is a resident of Denver, Colorado, and the father of two daughters, Katherine and Margaret; Benjamin Franklin, of Spencer, Iowa; Anna E.; and Mary B., deceased. Mrs. Felt became widely known in western Illinois and was prominently identified with the church and charity work of Galena, where her intelligence and refinement had always won for her loyal and devoted friends. In fact the family has long been one of prominence in Galena, leaders in all that relates to the material, intellectual and moral progress of the city. It was on the 4th of April, 1909, that Mrs. Felt passed away and her death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for her general culture, her kindness and the many beautiful phases of her character had endeared her to all. She was the founder of the Young Men's Christian Association, laboring untiringly for that cause. At a banquet held in Galena due recognition of her work in this connection was paid in a set of resolutions which were unanimously adopted and applauded and which read as follows:

"Whereas through the benevolence of the late B. F. Felt and his family, the city of Galena has received a well equipped and thoroughly efficient Young Men's Christian Association, and

"Whereas, from the same generous benefactors, the city has also received an exceptionally fine library building, containing many most valuable books and works of art, therefore be it

"Resolved, by the business and professional men of the city of Galena, assembled in banquet this 21st day of January, 1913, that we clearly recognize and greatly appreciate the beneficent Chris-

tian spirit of the donors in this meeting for the unprovided yet essential needs in this community—And be it further Resolved, that the business and professional men of the city of Galena shall annually hold, in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association, on the 3d day of January, that day being 'Library Founders Birthday,' or on Tuesday next thereunto, a banquet, in memory of Mr. Felt and the gracious gifts of his family—And be it further Resolved that the chairman of this meeting be requested to have these resolutions engrossed and presented to the family, and a copy of the resolutions printed in the local papers."

The daughter, Miss Anna E. Felt, has been very prominent in college circles and as an active factor in promoting intellectual progress here. Of her a contemporary biographer has written: "She was born in Galena, October 27, 1859, and after graduating from the public schools of Galena, attended Wells College of Aurora, New York, and graduated in 1880. She organized and was president of the Wells College Students' Association at the same time that Mrs. Grover Cleveland was the head of the eastern association. Miss Felt held the position six years and then resigned to go abroad. She traveled in Europe for some time, and on returning home was elected western vice president of the Wells College Alumni Association. She was an officer of the Illinois Christian Endeavor Union for seven years. She is a woman of broad culture and has done considerable literary work. Her love of books has not only made her labor for the library a pleasant task but has made her services of great value. She knew what she was about when she began the work of selecting the one thousand volumes her father donated, and her judgment has been approved by some of the most noted librarians of the country."

The story of Galena's public library is one of intense interest to all of the citizens. Believing that Galena should have a free public library and strongly encouraged in this project by his daughter Anna, Mr. Felt attempted to interest others in the undertaking, offering to be one of ten who would contribute the necessary funds, but he found no one his equal in liberality and generosity and he had to abandon his original plan. He never deviated from his determination that Galena should have a public library, however, and he at length resolved to found and equip it. Accordingly in the fall of 1894 he addressed a letter to the city council, as follows:

"To the Honorable City Council of the City of Galena:—When a petition was presented by the leading taxpayers of the city of Galena to the city council in May, 1892, asking that a public library and reading-room be established, in accordance with the Illinois

statutes, the ground upon which the city council placed its refusal to establish such library was that the fund which could legally be raised by taxation in any one year would be wholly inadequate to establish a library suitable to the needs of the city. Believing that the fund which can be annually raised by taxation will be sufficient to maintain suitably a library if once established, as evidencing my desire that a library be established and maintained, I make the following offer to you:

"Upon your establishing a public library and reading-room, in accordance with the provisions of the statutes of the state, I will donate to the board of directors for such public library and reading-room one thousand volumes; I will furnish the room or rooms where such library and reading-room is established with all the modern equipments; pay for the leading periodicals and newspapers for the reading-room for a term of two years; rent a suitable room on Main street and pay all the expenses of maintaining the same as a library and reading-room for the period of two years, upon the following terms and conditions:

"The city of Galena shall annually levy a tax of two mills on the dollar on all the taxable property in said city, in accordance with the first section of an act authorizing cities to establish and maintain free public libraries and reading-rooms, the first levy of such tax to be made at the time of the annual tax levy next following the acceptance of this proposition. Among the by-laws, rules and regulations adopted by the board of directors of such library for the government of the library and reading-room there shall be the following:

"The name shall be the Galena Public Library and Reading-Room.

"No anarchistic, atheistic or immoral book shall be tolerated in the library.

"Of the nine directors required by the Illinois law, four shall be women.

"Very respectfully,

"B. F. FELT."

The proposition was accepted by the council, who promised to maintain the library after two years and appointed the necessary nine trustees. Today her public library is an institution of which every citizen of Galena is justly proud. The library building was erected by the Felt family at a cost of forty-five thousand dollars, of which Andrew Carnegie donated twelve thousand five hundred. The corner stone of the library was laid on the 27th of April, 1907, and the building dedicated July 4, 1908, on which date Miss Anna Felt estab-



Mrs. B. F. Felt



lished the B. F. Felt endowment fund of \$15,000. The first library was opened to the public in the government building, January 3, 1895. It grew rapidly, so that the entire second floor of the building was soon necessary for its accommodation. Miss Felt, who devotes her time to the welfare of the library, at its founding took a course in library science and became a trained librarian. She now holds membership with both the Illinois Library Association and the American Library Association. During her travels in Europe in 1910 and 1911 she selected and presented to the library many beautiful pieces of statuary and bronzes as well as many rare curios and manuscripts, and in this work is carrying out the wishes and purposes of her honored father. The library, however, was not the only public enterprise which Mr. Felt promoted. His cooperation could always be counted upon to further any movement for the general good and had he so desired he might have had almost any political office within the gift of his fellow townsmen, but he had no aspiration in that direction. He was not neglectful of his political duties and responsibilities, however, and voted, as his judgment dictated, in support of the republican party. He preferred always to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs and that his public service should be done as a private citizen. Integrity and commercial honor as well as industry and perseverance were features in his success and brought him to the prominent position which he occupied. He was a man of fine personal appearance whose broad forehead indicated his intellectual force and whose face showed forth his strength of character. Moreover, he was a benign and kindly spirit and in him justice was tempered with mercy and his judgments were softened by sympathetic understanding and charity. None who met Benjamin Felt failed to pay their tribute of respect to him, for his entire life was indicative of his belief that upright character and self-respect are to be chosen in preference to great riches.



## C. A. Manners



A. MANNERS, who largely devoted his life to railway interests as a contractor and builder, lived for many years in Christian county and at different periods was prominent as an office holder as well as through his business connections. He was born in Somerset county, New Jersey, August 2, 1827, and his life record covered a period of sixty years. His parents were John and Penelope Manners, in whose home he remained until a desire to follow the sea led him to leave the parental roof when comparatively young. He spent eight years on the water, sailing to many ports, after which he returned to New Jersey and completed his interrupted education as a student in the public schools of that state. He afterward took up the profession of teaching, which he followed for two terms and then left the east to establish his home in the middle west, arriving in Christian county in 1851. From that time until his demise he was closely associated with many interests, movements and projects that were directly beneficial to the county. He arrived there in pioneer times and his worth and ability were soon recognized, for in the same year he was elected county surveyor, in which position he continued for three years. In 1859 he became connected with the surveying department of the government to fix the boundary line between the states of Kansas and Nebraska and was continuously engaged in making government surveys in the latter state until 1860. He then returned to Illinois and in 1862 was elected sheriff of Christian county for a term of two years, during which he discharged his duties with promptness, fearlessness and faithfulness. On his retirement from the office he took a contract for railroad construction and during the course of his life was accounted one of the most successful railroad builders of Illinois. He thoroughly understood all of the principles of railroad construction and by the careful execution of contracts awarded him earned an enviable reputation and a most desirable competence. At one time he went to Leadville, Colorado, where he was engaged in mining for a time. When his labors had brought to him some capital he made investments in land and in time became the owner of considerable valuable property.

On the 2d of October, 1861, Mr. Manners was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth A. Long, a daughter of Major Thomas Long, of Taylorville, who was the builder of the first hotel in that city and who served in the Black Hawk war. Mr. and Mrs. Manners had two children: Mrs. Frances C. Harner; and Thomas J., now deceased. Mr. Manners was a Mason, loyal to the teachings of the craft and guiding his life according to its principles. His political support was given the democratic party and he labored to promote its interests, believing its platform contained the best elements of good government. He was resolute and industrious, a self-made man whose life record proved what may be accomplished when industry demands entrance at the portals of success. He died in 1887, leaving behind him an honorable name as well as a comfortable competence. Many years have since elapsed but he is still remembered by those who were his associates in business or who knew him in social relations, for sterling qualities of manhood endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.

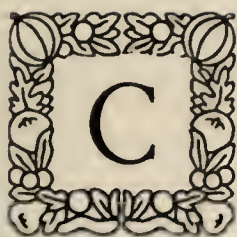






ROBERT B. LATHAM

## Colonel Robert B. Latham



COLONEL ROBERT B. LATHAM was the founder of Lincoln, not only in a material sense of subdivision of land and laying out of streets, but also in the development of its intellectual, moral and charitable projects. There was no phase of valuable public service instituted in Logan county with which he was not connected and in most cases he was the promoter thereof.

“He leaves a patriot’s name to future times,  
Linked with a thousand virtues—and no crimes.”

Like Lincoln, he was a man of the people. He came into close contact with them in their lives and in their interests and like the martyred president inspired his associates with the same high purpose and ideals which actuated his own life.

Colonel Robert B. Latham was born in Union county, Kentucky, June 21, 1818, and was of English lineage. His ancestors, however, settled in Virginia at an early day, where they took active part in laying the foundation of our national government. His father, James Latham, born in Virginia, October 21, 1768, engaged in farming in his native state and on the 21st of June, 1792, wedded Mary, or Polly Briggs, who was born in Virginia, February 3, 1772. They removed to Kentucky, in which state all of their ten children were born. In September, 1819, James Latham removed from Union county, Kentucky, to Elkhart, Illinois. He possessed the courageous, determined spirit of the pioneer and penetrated into the wilderness where no white man had made permanent settlement. The state had been admitted to the Union only the previous year. The country had not then been surveyed so that he became one of the “squatter sovereigns” of the land with Indians for his neighbors. He erected the first cabin north of the Sangamon river and became the “oldest settler” of Logan county. It was not until some years later that the land was placed upon the market, at which time he entered nearly all of the timber tract of Elkhart Grove, comprising almost a section. Prairie lands at that time were considered of no value. James Latham at once began to clear and develop his fields and was closely associated with every

phase of pioneer life and the upbuilding of the county. About 1825 he was appointed by John Quincy Adams, then president of the United States, as Indian agent and removed from Elkhart to Fort Clark, now Peoria. While there he became acquainted with all of the prominent Indian chiefs including Black Hawk, Shaubena, Senachwine, Black Partridge and others. No man had greater influence among or was more highly esteemed and feared by them than James Latham. He was honest and upright in his dealings, affable in manner and firm and decided when differences arose, so that he commanded the respect of the chiefs and the admiration of the warriors. After remaining at Fort Clark for two years he passed away, leaving a large circle of friends as well as his immediate family to mourn his loss. He has been characterized as "a sturdy pioneer, possessed of great power of endurance; of more than ordinary grasp of mind, highly educated; and a man of influence among men of all conditions." He was buried at Elkhart Grove near the spot where he first erected his cabin.

It was in this typical pioneer home on the frontier that Robert B. Latham was reared and his first teacher was Erastus Wright, one of the early educators of the state employed by the father to instruct his children. At Fort Clark, where the family remained for only two years, he attended a subscription school. In 1827, following the father's death, the family returned to Elkhart, Illinois, and Robert Latham went to Morgansfield, Kentucky, where he resided with his sister and attended school. He afterward returned to Elkhart and subsequently went to Stout's Grove, McLean county, and afterward to Fancy Creek. Desirous of having better educational advantages he next became a pupil in the high school at Springfield which he attended until about twenty years of age, and it was during his stay in the capital city that he formed the acquaintance of Abraham Lincoln, an acquaintance that ripened into intimate friendship that remained unbroken until the president's death. Mr. Lincoln frequently visited at the home of Mr. Latham, practically never visiting the city of Lincoln without calling upon him.

In his youthful days Robert B. Latham when not in school was busily employed in the work of the farm, and when upon attaining his majority the father's estate was divided, he began farming on his own account, receiving as his share of the estate a part of the grove of Elkhart. He was busily engaged in general agricultural pursuits until twenty-eight years of age when, November 5, 1846, he married Miss Georgiana P. Gillett, daughter of John Gillett, Sr., who had a short time before taken up his abode at Bald Knob, Logan county.

Prior to his marriage Mr. Latham erected a pleasant home near the site of the old cabin to which he took his bride, and there as the years passed three children were added to the household, John G., Mary and James, but all died in early life.

The family had the usual experiences of the time. Wild game of all kinds could be had in abundance and fish of many kinds were taken from the rivers in great quantities. Mr. Latham continued to engage in farming until 1850, when he disposed of his land at Elkhart and removed to Mount Pulaski. The same year he was elected sheriff of Logan county and acceptably discharged his duties in that connection for two years. It was during his residence there that he suffered the loss of his wife and all three of his children. Following this great bereavement he removed to Lincoln in the spring of 1854. In connection with J. D. Gillett and Virgil Hickox he purchased the northwest quarter of section 31, township 20, range 2, west, in Logan county, and upon this tract founded the town which he called Lincoln in honor of his friend, Abraham Lincoln. He laid out the section of the town east of Union street and on the 30th of August, 1853, lots were offered at public sale. In the spring of 1854, Mr. Latham and his two partners built the Lincoln House which was destroyed by fire, April 19, 1870. Many of the buildings, including both homes and business blocks, were erected by him and he was equally active in advancing the intellectual and moral as well as the material progress of the city. He contributed to the building and to the support of nearly every church of the town and it was well known that his influence was ever on the side of right, justice, truth and improvement.

A broad-minded man, naturally interested in questions of public importance, Mr. Latham was elected to the state legislature in 1860, polling a very large vote. He did important service in the house in connection with legislation brought about by the opening of the Civil war. When his term of service had expired in 1862 he at once began raising a regiment for it was seen that the war was to be no mere holiday affair, and the president had again urged the enlistment of troops. Logan county furnished eight companies of the regiment, raised by Mr. Latham, who was their unanimous choice for commander, and he was commissioned colonel by the governor. The regiment was mustered in as the One Hundred and Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee under General Grant. Becoming ill with fever Colonel Latham was taken to the hospital at Memphis where he lay until his physicians advised him to return home in July. For many weeks he was in a critical condition and it was not until October, 1863, that he was able to rejoin his

regiment. He then remained with his command until January, 1864, when he was prostrated with pneumonia, repeated attacks of that disease at length forcing him to resign.

It is impossible to overestimate the worth of Mr. Latham as a citizen of Lincoln and Logan county. As much as any man in the state, he exerted himself for the election of Mr. Lincoln to the presidency and was ever active and interested in the promotion of his party and republican principles. When the Cumberland Presbyterian church was seeking a favorable location for a university Mr. Latham entered upon the project of inducing the committee to select Lincoln. He joined with John Wyatt in calling a public meeting at which subscriptions were opened, and through the persevering labors of Mr. Latham and his friends Logan county subscribed twenty thousand dollars toward the erection of the building. The act of incorporation passed the legislature in 1864 and Mr. Latham was made a member of the board of trustees. The building was commenced in 1865 and the school was opened the following year. Mr. Latham was elected the vice president of the first board of trustees and during the succeeding year was chosen president. His work in that connection contributed much to the success of the institution.

Colonel Latham always regarded his efforts in connection with the railroads as the most important service which he rendered to the people of his county. He saw and recognized the value of railroad connection with the outside world and put forth every effort in his power to secure the building of lines through Logan county. The Pekin, Lincoln & Decatur road and the branch of the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western road, were brought into successful operation through his exertions. He had the most trying opposition and frequently was made the subject of gross personal opposition, but he never faltered in the performance of what he considered to be his duty. The Pekin, Lincoln & Decatur road owes its existence to him. He made public speeches when he thought such would be effective. He traveled in behalf of the line and did everything in his power, and was not content until the victory was gained. Today the citizens of Logan county acknowledge their indebtedness to him and more and more they will realize how valuable was his service. Another important act of his life was his instrumentality in the establishment of the asylum for feeble-minded children at Lincoln. His broad humanitarianism was one of his chief characteristics and he was a generous supporter of other organized movements and many independent ones which had for their object the amelioration of hard conditions of life for the unfortunate.

Colonel Latham lost his first wife on August 8, 1853, and was married, on the 24th of July, 1856, to Miss Savillah Wyatt, a daughter of William and Rachel (Kitchen) Wyatt, who resided near Jacksonville, Illinois. Her ancestors lived in Loudoun county, Virginia, and her father was born in that county, near Harper's Ferry. He was a son of John Wyatt, a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The family was founded in Virginia in 1621 by Rev. H. Wyatt, a brother of Sir Francis Wyatt, who was three times appointed governor of Virginia. Her mother came of French and Spanish ancestry and was born in Missouri. Mrs. Latham was the eighth in a family of nine children and her birth occurred November 9, 1831. Her brother, John Wyatt, was one of the founders of Lincoln and his family are still residents there. Mrs. Latham who is in her eighty-second year, is enjoying excellent health and is one of the honored pioneer women of Illinois. She has been instrumental in organizing many societies and clubs and her name is in the cornerstone of several of the churches and public buildings in Lincoln. She has been noted for her attractive and generous hospitality and entertained the committee of the Cumberland Presbyterian church that located the college in Lincoln as well as many other visitors to the city. In 1876 she established the Lincoln Art Society and in 1881 was instrumental in organizing the Illinois Central Art Union, composed of the societies of Springfield, Bloomington, Decatur, Champaign, Jacksonville, Peoria, Carlinville and Pana. Mrs. Latham held a reception at her home in which the union was formed and on which occasion were present several artists who have since won wide fame. She was also one of the organizers of the Belles Lettres Society of the College of Jacksonville, one of the first literary societies of the state. In October, 1912, she returned from her third trip abroad, having been absent for more than a year. She has always been active in every good work in Lincoln and during her husband's absence at the front at the time of the war she devoted her evenings to making flannels and lint for the injured soldiers. She ranks with Illinois' foremost pioneer women and her home has been the scene of many notable social functions at which have been entertained most of the illustrious men of the state.

Unto Colonel and Mrs. Latham were born five children, as follows: May, born May 1, 1857; Richard, born July 1, 1859; Robertie, born August 12, 1861; William W., born November 28, 1865; and Georgiana, who was born November 24, 1872, and married Aaron L. Gamble.

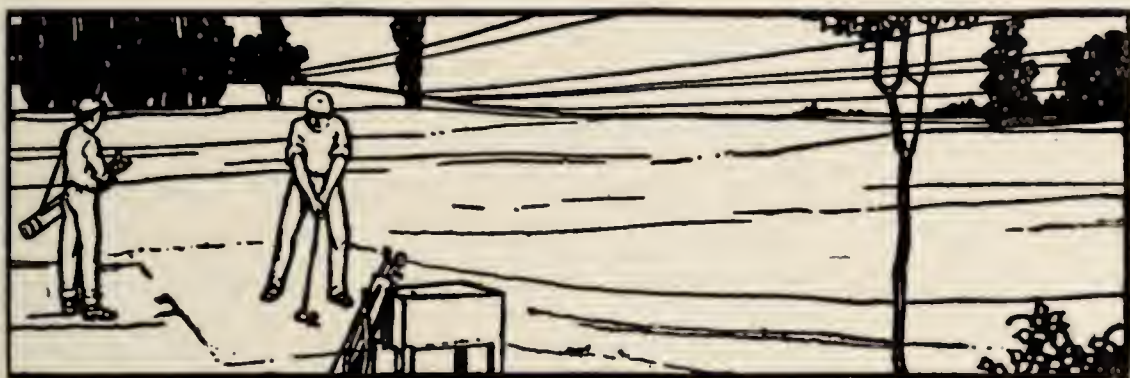
In writing of Mr. Latham at the time of his death one of the local papers said: "The characteristics of Mr. Latham may be inferred

from the various enterprises in which he has been engaged and the success that has attended him through life. If a man is to be measured by his success, then Mr. Latham ranks among the first of his state. In whatever position he has been placed he has shown himself equal to the work and master of the position. As a legislator he may not have shone as an orator but his vote was always on the side of humanity and for the right. No mistakes blot his record at the state capitol. As a military officer he was efficient and deservedly popular. Called as he was from the active duties of a civilian to the field, without previous military knowledge either of theory or practice of war, it is astonishing how readily he adapted himself to the situation and mastered the commandant's role. As a public civil officer it is enough to say he met the constituency and disarmed his political opponents by his unswerving integrity and veracity. As a citizen he was foremost in every benevolent cause and no enterprise that had for its object the improvement of the town, county or state but received encouragement and material aid. The public schools, the college, the churches, the literary circle, all felt his munificence and private charity went rejoicing from his door. But it is in the private circle that his character shines out with the brightest radiance and with the mildest lustre. As a father he was kind and indulgent, without being slack in parental discipline; as a husband he was confiding and affectionate; as a neighbor, open-hearted, accommodating and generous. The young man found in him a safe counsellor and frequently the older man followed his advice in preference to his own judgment. Such were some of the characteristics and work of Robert B. Latham. His life has been one of unequalled success and he may justly be ranked with

'Founders of states that dignify the mind  
And lovers of our race, whose labor gave  
Their names a memory that defies the grave.' "

A far nobler mausoleum than marble is the homage of friends. Time places the trumpet to his lips and midst the notes of human joy or sorrow there comes suddenly a deeper tone, thrilling us into keenest consciousness of loss. Such a tone was heard when Lincoln received the news of the death of Colonel R. B. Latham who passed away at Daytona, Florida, on the 20th of April, 1895, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. At no time before in its history has his home city paid such tribute of honor and respect to one of her townsmen as it did to Colonel Latham at the time of his burial services. Every business house was closed and although it was the desire of the family that the

services should be quiet and unostentatious there were hundreds who gathered to pay their last tribute of honor to Lincoln's oldest citizen and its founder. He was loved by young and old, rich and poor. His high character, his genial, kindly ways, his unfailing generosity, his interest in the community had won for him hosts of friends and the name of no other man who has resided in Lincoln is spoken of in terms of higher praise or with deeper feeling than that of Colonel Latham. Of him it was written: "He was one of the first white children to call Logan county home. He came here when this thickly populated county was a wilderness and inspired a love of nature early, lived here when the shams and foibles of life were not so distinctive or so prevalent, mingled with men and women when hospitality and brotherly love were real, not sham, when worth not wealth measured a man's standing. In this crucible he was born, by this measure he was raised and by this rule he lived and measured men."





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